

WAS COLUMBUS THE FIRST CAPE VERDEAN?



Columbus



Antonio da Noli

SUPPLEMENT TO THE BOOK: “The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese born Columbus”

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Introduction Letter from the Mayor of Noli, Italy -2023

Dr. Balla has been a great friend of Noli for many years. From his visit to this city and subsequent contacts gave rise to the idea of an international conference

dedicated to the discovery of Cabo Verde: in 2010, the 550th anniversary of the discovery, scholars from three continents compared their information on Antonio da Noli, definitively confirming his own personal identity, which had often been confused with that of other navigators, and his role of discoverer and colonizer of the archipelago. The reports presented at that conference were then collected and published in a volume entitled (*Da Noli a Capo Verde*) ("From Noli to Cabo Verde"), which provides a composite and extremely interesting picture of the events from which gave birth to a new people, the Cape Verdean, and laid the foundations for the discovery of America.

Several questions remained open about the last years of the great navigator 's life and on the many coincidences with the figure of Christopher Columbus. Continuing to investigate these issues, Dr. Balla, a passionate and competent researcher, studied the biography of the great Genoese navigator with eyes free from prejudices; establishing new hypotheses and highlighting elements that had been previously neglected or even unknown.

Dr. Balla has the opportunity to further his studies from a privileged position: he is an American of Cape Verdean origin, with strong ties to the archipelago, and resides in Portugal, where he has the opportunity to consult original documents relating to the events of the era of the discoveries. The information presented by the author allows us to open up new lines of investigation that are extremely interesting.

As Mayor of the Municipality of Noli and the place of origin of Antonio's family, the discoverer of the Cape Verde islands and founder of Ribeira Grande, the ancient

capital, now a twin city with my city, I can only express my gratitude for the precious work done by Dr. Balla.

The hope for all of us is that these further studies developed in recent years can be presented as a new opportunity for having a meeting and comparative discussion in the city of Noli.

The Mayor of the City of Noli

Ambrogio Repetto

(The original letter in Italian is in Annex 17)

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In Portugal, it was Dra. Assunção Constantino, the director and her talented staff at the Municipal Library Vicente Campinas in Vila Real de St Antonio that provided me with the documents and rare books that I needed to confirm my arguments. Also in Portugal, I received great help from the local computer specialists, the director Sr.Carlos Cavaco and his assistant Sra. Sandra Ferreira at the company, Sismagic. They take care of all my computer problems and the preparation of my books for publishing. In Lisbon, I received great assistance from Dra. Helena Grego, the manager of the library at the Geographic Society of Lisbon. This society has many old books that are extremely difficult to find.

In Spain, it was the Columbus Library and the Archives of the Indies in Seville; the National Library in Madrid provided me with rare information about Columbus; the Royal Academy of History in Madrid with exceptional help from the officials Sra. Asunción Miralles de Imperial y Pasqual del Pobil and Sr. Oscar Torres; the Municipal Library in Ayamonte helped me find rare books in Spain; the Tourist Office in Huelva helped me find important historical sites and the Palace of the Duke Medina Sidonia in San Lucar de Barremeda helped me find rare books

and documents that were vital to my research. There was also Sr. Oscar Martin in Spain who helped me find rare books that I needed and then there were professional translators of the old Spanish language and Latin, Dr. Julio Barrios and Guillermo Moran who helped me with linguistic problems and also gave me great advice.

In Italy I was given extraordinary help at the City Hall in the city of Noli as one official, Teresa Vicente arranged introductions and meetings with key members of the academic society to help with my research, in addition to a lot of help from the former Mayor Dott. Ambrogio Repetto in the city of Noli. Also the former Deputy Mayor, Alberto Peluffo and his family provided me with great personal assistance in adjusting to my visits to the city of Noli as well as helping with the Italian language. In Serra Ricco (Genoa), Dott. Andrea Tomaso Torre guided an important conference to highlight the history of Antonio de Noli. In Genoa, it was Professor Antonio Musarra who introduced me to important people and in Rome it was the Embassy of Cabo Verde, at first the Ambassador Dr. J. Eduardo Barbosa, then later the Ambassador Dr. Manuel Amante da Rosa.

In the USA, it was the Oak Grove School Cape Verdean Cultural Center, led by Mary Vieira Rose, who celebrated her 105th birthday in 2019 and her daughter June who offered inspiration in researching Cape Verdean History. My cousin Reinaldo Balla helped me to identify an important family in Cabo Verde that many believe may be descendants of the first settlers and possibly related to Antonio de Noli. Another important contributor is Mr.

Phillip Gomes of Wareham, MA who has been lauded by the media for his ability to communicate the importance of the history of Cabo Verde to the local historical society and has now voluntarily committed himself to working as an intermediary on my behalf to consult with other agencies such as school boards, Cape Verdean Associations and local political representatives in order to promote the story of the Cape Verdean people and their contributions to American and World History.

In Jamaica, it was Professor Trevor Hall who inspired me to go to Spain and find new information that would lead to the conclusions of this book. Hall, gave a speech at a conference in Noli, Italy, in 2010, in which he expressed his belief that Columbus and Antonio de Noli could be the same person and presented some credible information that gave credence to his idea. Since I was already doing comparative research on the two navigators and couldn't understand why they never seemed to meet in the history books, his idea was groundbreaking and very convincing. In our most recent email exchanges in 2021, he appears to be convinced that he has original documents that demonstrate a direct link with the two navigators' families. In the years between the Noli conference and 2021, I had to modify my research after listening to Hall and now it seems that Hall's idea appears in my opinion of extraordinary importance and has led me to take another path to reach my own conclusions, based on information I have uncovered over the past 10 years of research. Professor Hall has now asked that I help him find candidates who might be descendants of Antonio de Noli so that their DNA can be compared to that of Columbus to confirm this idea.

There was also plenty of help in Cabo Verde. Here, I believe that it is important to add that in Cabo Verde it can be a very challenging mission to work with the local institutions; perhaps this problem is due in large part to the lack of awareness about the true value of the history of this archipelago. However, I must admit that this is not unusual; there are many places in the world today, whereby the people and institutions are not fully aware of their past history. Nevertheless, in spite of the difficulties, somehow a great deal was accomplished as key people and institutions become more aware of the true value of this history, especially the National Archives in Praia and certain media outlets. In the National Archives, the conservator, Dr. Jose Maria Tavares and his staff provided me with the necessary assistance to conduct a very important conference to highlight the information that is being published in this book. The former Ambassador to Portugal for Cabo Verde, Dr. Arnaldo Ramos Andrade, provided me with great advice in order to get a better understanding of the local community in Cabo Verde. Also, I wish to thank Dr. Basílio Ramos, a former president of the National Assembly in Cabo Verde for showing his support for my research.

Danny Spinola, president of the Society of Cape Verdean Authors (SOCA), and his great staff have made many contributions to help promote my research. Professor Daniel Medina, the president of the Academy of Letters, has also been instrumental in communicating the significance of this research to the Cape Verdean people; this is extremely important because he is well aware of the true value of Cape Verdean history and wants to insure that this history is properly preserved for the benefit of all.

Professor Nardi Sousa of the University of Santiago has also been extremely supportive of this project despite his busy schedule. Finally, I would like to thank my good friend Laurindo Teixeira Vieira a native of the little village of Joao da Noli in Brava, Cabo Verde for his inspiration in helping me to continue my work.

I would also like to give special thanks to an old American friend of mine, Howard White who lives in Spain. Fortunately, he became aware of my research and after listening to the problems that I had in finding new information, he suggested that I find an important book authored by the Duchess of Medina Sidonia. His astute suggestion provided me with invaluable information that unleashed my energy to help clarify many of the mysteries that had hindered my previous work. That suggestion has been a major factor in the conclusions of this book. This work has been an international effort and I am convinced that by working together in the international community we can solve many problems that have existed for many centuries especially in the teaching of history.

Preface

The path of humanity is full of a thousand challenges. It looks like we were forged and tempered in that wake. Perhaps the evolutionary genesis is in that force that constantly pushes us towards new discoveries. In it is almost always implied the pain and discomfort of the incomprehension of the moment, the anguish of the results, the social judgment and the unpredictable. However, if this were not so, we would probably still be living in the dark ages.

The boldness of wanting to go further, to seek explanations, to investigate in search of other ways to do things, is in the imagination of Cape Verdeans. More than a question of survival, it will possibly be that of the permanent rediscovery of oneself.

MG Balla is one of those determined men who goes after history, traveling thousands of kilometers across continents in pursuit of the thread for clarifications. His determination, tenacity and constant fighting spirit are impressive.

Naturally, a request from him, as risky as it may be, for a humble layman in the matter, establishes, however, and prioritizes (a priori), a principle of deference for the man's journey and, “we embark” on the sailing ship sailing at the mercy of the stars. The argument that we are neither a historian nor a sailor was not accepted by him.

This book is the result of many years of research. A lot of data has been examined, but the mystery endures. Thus, there is a question in the title. These are aspects of our history and, it is hoped that the truth will come out in order to find an unambiguous answer to this apparent imbroglio, in which there is an overlapping of information, leading us to assumptions and dilemmas.

It is a field of struggle in the academic field in which it is necessary to separate the wheat from the chaff (husks-s.t. worthless). In fact, in scientific areas of this nature, there are often oppositions, conflicts, and interests, divergent or contradictory projects. Researchers, particularly those in the historiography field, will be responsible for establishing or not new parameters or starting questions for their research.

It is worth remembering that, in certain areas, there is also the possibility of multiple readings, interpretations and manipulation of references in a situation of contact between different groups that refer us to traditional and or historical values.

History can create or destroy identities. For this reason, studies, questions, calls for attention to different perspectives, may constitute beneficial elements for sedimentation, for changing points of view, to start over with new perspectives, to discover other truths. And in the thorough investigation there are principles that clearly lead to division.

Bezerra de Meneses (1987), regarding the possibility of orchestrating historical events, affirms that "the process of

identification is a process of construction of an image, which is the reason for manipulation". For this reason, it is also essential to consider, in the first place, the importance of using history itself, that is, social memory as the fundamental support of identity and, as such, condition of human psychic and social life.

Everything we experience since our birth, and in a way everything that precedes it, accompanies us, that is, what we are, individually or collectively, is the condensation of the history we inherited and the one we live with and it is with this integral past that we desire, want, act, design, etc. As this process is continuous, we are not the same individually or collectively at each moment in our history. Sometimes, there is only one truth.

It should be remembered that in 1462 the navigators António da Noli, and, soon after, Diogo Afonso, both at the service of the Portuguese Crown, settled on the island of Santiago, as determined by the Infant D. Fernando. They formed the first captaincies. The years between 1460 and 1462 are considered as dates accepted by most scholars about the discovery of the archipelago.

Colonization resulted in a unique fact in history: the birth of a new people originated by the fusion of European and African elements, a biological and anthropological link between the two continents. But the discovery of Cape Verde was also a milestone in the field of geographic discoveries, becoming the basis for new Atlantic explorations, destined soon to find more effective routes to and from India and to reveal the American continent.

Now, a mystery remains in the glorious era of the great Italian navigators that led to the birth of the New World: who was António de Noli, the discoverer of the islands of Cabo Verde? The book "Da Noli a Capo Verde", published by Marco Sabatelli Editore, sheds light on the character and his role in that fascinating and mysterious time.

These mysteries have to do with countless pieces of information that concern both Columbus and António de Noli, especially in relation to his time on the Portuguese islands. The main references for the new information are based on the book "Africa versus America", by the Duchess of Medina Sidónia, who died in 2008.

It represents more than 30 years of research, based on historical documents that are filed in Sanlúcar de Barremeda in the Province of Cádiz, in southern Spain. Among others, MG Balla, references these documents that led him to lift the veil of eternal scientific curiosity. The book was considered controversial, apparently because it provides details about maps and documents about Africa and the New World that challenge traditional views of the Age of Discovery by Western historians. It also highlights the links between Africa and America a few centuries before Columbus's arrival in 1492.

However, in 1476, a turning point in history changed the life of the man who had become a wealthy governor, dedicated to profitable trade with West Africa: the Spanish conquered the islands and captured António de Noli, taking him to Spain.

However, in the following year, he would be released by order of the king, but then he disappeared without a trace. By coincidence or not, at that time, part of Noli's family had already returned to Italy, to Cesena, from where they would return to Liguria, to Valleregia di Serra Riccò, where there is still a village called Noli.

According to the information, Porto Santo was also called Cabo Verde. Cabo Verde was also known as Antonio's Island (a direct reference to Antonio de Noli who officially discovered the islands).

As for the navigator Cristóvão Colombo, several doubts remain, including about his real name because he never signed his name as "Colombo". He used a coded group of letters that form a pyramid that researchers have been trying to decode for centuries.

On the other hand, there are many stories written about Columbus and the legendary "anonymous pilot" that undoubtedly circulated among sailors for many years. Although these stories have never been confirmed, there is substantial evidence to take them seriously.

Basically, the pilot's story concerns a navigator who was lost at sea during a storm and ended up in the Caribbean on an island believed to be the Dominican Republic and after spending a few weeks there, the pilot and his crew embarked on the journey back home, where they experienced a horrible trip. Almost everyone lost their lives along the way.

The story goes that Columbus treated the pilot in his “home”, where he died a few days later. The anonymous pilot was the last of the group to die. However, Columbus allegedly asked the pilot to provide him with all the information necessary to locate the new land he had visited, having subsequently built new maps from the dialogues.

Columbus would then set out, discovering new worlds. Some mysteries will remain unsolved. Did Columbus really live in Cabo Verde? Who would be the anonymous pilot? What is the role and importance of Cabo Verde in this period?

It is worth reviewing certain propositions by Jacques Le Goff, when this historian affirms that it is necessary, “above all, to remove the history of the doldrums from the routine, in the first place of its confinement in strictly disciplinary barriers”, and quotes Lucien Febvre, for whom everyone, the researcher must “tear down the old-fashioned walls, the Babylonian mountains of prejudices, routines, errors in conception and understanding”.

MG Balla says that “as long as the mystery is not resolved, researchers should continue to work on this issue, on behalf of history and truth”.

Professor Daniel Medina,
President of the Cape Verdean Academy of Letters
Cabo Verde

About the author

This book is about the mysterious life of Columbus. According to the author, there are many unsolved mysteries that require attention, based on previous information that rarely attracted serious attention in the past. However, the author now believes that now is the right time to discuss these topics in the open, since international historians are now trying to identify the real Columbus after more than 5 centuries.

MG Balla is considered to be the first writer who started comparing the biographies of Columbus and Antonio de Noli, in his book "Antonio's Island", published in 2002. Since then, an important international conference was held in the city of Noli, in Italy, in 2010, and discoveries were made that had a significant impact on the author's thinking.

Following the conference and after consultations with several important international historians, he realized the need for a more in-depth study of the subject, which is why he decided to visit different countries in the seemingly endless search for the identity of Columbus. The author now claims to have made significant progress in that venture.

Many problems related to Columbus, such as his birth year, his real name, his homeland, his mysterious travels, his favorite places where he was well known, and even the names of those officials who had an extraordinary interest in his activities, are just some of the topics considered in this 400+-page book. The author underlines the fact that Columbus never revealed his age,

not even to his closest contacts, nor to his family, and explains why this attitude was an important factor to keep his identity secret for over 500 years. A detailed analysis of the age of Columbus is made, based on historical evidence rarely mentioned by traditional historians of the modern age. Such testimonials should be an important contribution in disclosing the navigator's true age.

The author is strongly aware of the many discussions about the nationality of Columbus and his legendary life as a Genoese wool weaver; however, it is his opinion that Columbus was indeed from Genoa, but certainly not a wool weaver, and provides substantial evidence to support his views.

Perhaps one of the most important issues discussed in the book is the historical period of the Age of Discoveries, before 1492. That period is centered on the activities of Columbus and Antonio de Noli in Africa, Cabo Verde, Madeira and Spain, as well as the mainland of Portugal. M. G. Balla believes that this was a crucial period in the history of the Age of Discoveries that receives very little attention from many historians, but, fortunately, offers a rich panorama of useful information for researchers. For example, he points out that Columbus was considered to be present in different geographical areas in different periods, but there is no evidence to verify these claims. It therefore becomes obvious that, due to the lack of consistent evidence, it is extremely difficult to reconstruct the life of Columbus based on legendary information and hearsay evidence, of a very dubious nature and useful only to poison the controversy. Despite this, Balla faces old problems with a new

method and discovers some unusual facts, based on important documents that have rarely been examined in detail in the past. According to the author, these new revelations must be taken seriously if we intend to reach a conclusion about the life of Columbus.

There are several serious problems that challenge the investigator doing research on Columbus, especially the lack of original documents. The latter forces the investigator to rely heavily on the works of Bartolomeo de las Casas and Fernando Colon, which may have been easily altered over the years. Unfortunately, we will never know for sure how accurate these publications are, but nevertheless we know they are important; however, they should be read carefully while hoping for the best.

Balla does not believe that Columbus came to Portugal in 1476, but places his arrival in Portugal many years earlier; this new time period dramatically changes the perspective of many contemporary events, especially those concerning the War of Succession. In the course of that war, Columbus played a very important role in his opinion which is probably being examined for the first time. As a result of this new analysis, old historical figures appear on the scene, taking on a new historical role based on powerful documentary support. Not only do these documents help confirm the theory that Columbus was a spy for King John II, but also an incredible connection is made between Columbus and Antonio de Noli. This hypothetical connection is believed to have been advanced for the first time in his book "Antonio's Island", in which he strongly stated: "**The fact is, that if a direct**

connection can be made between Antonio de Noli and Columbus , it could probably solve many of the mysteries about the life of Columbus that have lasted for over 5 centuries ". Now, he believes this book justifies that prediction, thanks to a wealth of information being examined, perhaps for the first time in history.

Another significant advantage of the change of date of Columbus's entry into Portugal, from 1476 to an earlier date, is that this information allows the author to see Columbus as a completely different person, which adds intrigue and mystery to new developments and helps to explain exactly why he was so determined to undertake his journey to the New World. In fact, the author believes that Columbus knew almost exactly where he was going when he made his famous voyage of 1492, because most likely he conceived the idea of discovery at a time when he was almost certainly living in Cabo Verde, based on some very interesting circumstantial evidence.

Balla also provides some very interesting information to show that Columbus must have had very important contacts with some powerful families, long before his trip in 1492. He explains some details, often overlooked, such as the ability of his brother Bartholomeo to visit some royal families in Europe to present his request for support for the discovery voyage. Many other mysteries concerning the influence of the Columbus brothers and their extraordinary ability to influence events both in Portugal and in Spain are explained in the book.

The title of the book, "The Portuguese Cape Verdean identity of the Genoese Born Columbus" should give the reader some clues about the author's point of view regarding Columbus and his links with Portugal, Cabo Verde and his native land of Genoa. There is also some new information that helps to explain why Columbus wanted to hide his true identity.

In fact, if the theory in the book is correct, it becomes obvious that he had little or no choice but to hide his identity. This helps the reader to understand why Columbus often spoke in riddles, for example, why he normally referred to his travels in Guinea or Cabo Verde, but without ever saying exactly when he made those trips. There had to be a reason to explain this attitude; the book will help explain these reasons with some informative data that probably had never been fully analyzed before this book was written.

The appendix to the book contains some important information, highlighting fundamental documents that bring a new awareness to the task of seeking the true identity of Columbus. There is also a map showing the ports in Africa that Columbus would have visited before going to Spain. The appendix also reveals the convent in which Columbus was buried before his body was sent to Santo Domingo. It is believed that the convent preserves many of the secrets centered on the mysterious navigator; further explanations are provided to explain the true meaning of that convent and why it was a special place for Columbus and his family, for many decades after his death.

Whatever the critics can say about this work, Balla is convinced that one of his final statements will pass the test of time: "**Until historians decide to carry out a detailed comparative study of Antonio de Noli and Christopher Columbus, there will never be an acceptable solution for the mysterious problems that involve both men**".

This book must be considered as a major innovation in the search for the true identity of Columbus. *

***Note:** This statement refers to the book, "*The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese born Columbus*." This work is written as a supplement to reinforce the ideas in that book.

Book review by Marco Sabatelli “Da Noli a Capo Verde” 2013

There is a mystery in the glorious era of the great Italian navigators that led to the birth of the New World: Who was Antonio de Noli, the discoverer of the Cape Verde Islands? The book "*From Noli to Cape Verde*", published by Marco Sabatelli Editore, sheds light on the character and his role in that fascinating time full of mysteries.

The volume contains the proceedings of the international conference with the same title, held in Noli, at the Fondazione Culturale S. Antonio, in 2010, the year in which the 550th anniversary of the discovery of Cape Verde occurred and the 35th anniversary of its independence. That was probably the first occasion in which eminent international scholars (Corradino Astengo, Marcel Balla, Marcello Ferrada de Noli, Lourenço Gomes, Trevor Hall, Vasco Pires) confronted each other on the subject and **provided a complete and coherent picture of the figure of the navigator and the value of his discovery.**

Antonio de Noli appears to have been born in Genoa from a family of Nolese origins. He sailed on behalf of Prince Henry of Portugal, he discovered the islands of Cabo Verde in 1460 and was given the task from the Lusitanian king of governing and colonizing the archipelago, at that time it was uninhabited. The colonization had as a consequence **a unique fact in history:** the birth of a new people originated by the fusion of European and African elements, a biological and anthropological link between the two continents. But the discovery of Cabo Verde was also a

milestone in the field of geographical discoveries, becoming the basis of new Atlantic explorations, destined soon to find more effective routes to and from India and to unveil the American continent.

In 1476, a plot twist changed the life of the man who had become a wealthy governor, dedicated to lucrative trade with West Africa: **the Spaniards conquered the islands and captured de Noli, taking him to Spain.** Here, however, **the following year he was released by order of the king and, immediately afterwards, he disappeared without leaving any trace.** He may have died in those circumstances, **but another document, dated 1497, leaves many questions open, which the book highlights.** On that date, a part of the de Noli family had already returned to Italy, to Cesena, from where it would then return to Liguria, to Valleregia di Serra Riccò, where a hamlet called Noli still exists today. Overall, starting from the navigator, the research identifies a family tree that covers nineteen generations, up to the present day.

AUTHOR'S COMMENTS: Please note the importance of this last paragraph. **What happened after he disappeared?** That's the question that I've been working on for many years and it's really a fascinating story that most people will not want to believe because it contradicts their previous knowledge that they learned in childhood. The documents that I have to support my answer to this crucial question will most likely leave people speechless and the problem is there isn't any place to go to confirm it unless they are willing to spend thousands of dollars and years of research in addition to learning several languages in the process. Btw, the

king in this paragraph is Don Fernando and most people may not recognize him by that name because his American name is King Ferdinand the husband of Queen Isabella. I found this critique on the Internet in Italian and made the translation to English with the help of the Google translator.

There is more interesting information on this subject; “Why didn’t the Portuguese Crown comment on the capture of António de Noli by Spain or afterwards when he disappeared after he was released?” The behavior of the Crown in this respect seems very strange, since António de Noli was a very famous person and internationally known and also, because his inheritance (including his title) was transferred to his daughter, Dona Branca de Aguiar after more than 20 years since his disappearance (to clearly demonstrate his importance despite the silence for more than 20 years) (See Annex 2 (2/2)).

Introduction

This book is a continuation of “The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese Born Columbus.” Fortunately, I was able to find important information in the book, “Africa versus America,” authored by a descendant of Queen Isabella, Luisa Isabel Alvarez de Toledo, the Duchess of Medina Sidonia. This work was the result of about 30 years of research based on original documents from her family archives and helps to explain certain mysteries about the lives of Columbus and Antonio de Noli that otherwise would be virtually unknown to historians. This new information by the duchess has been combined with recently discovered rare documents by other Spanish researchers and when analyzed together, we start to see a new profile being created of both Columbus and Antonio de Noli that was totally unexpected. This new information is based on extraordinary revelations that can no longer be ignored by reputable historians. Hopefully, this new information will contribute to a better understanding of my previously cited book. Citations from a few other authors have also been used to augment this supplement.

Madeira - Porto Santo - Cabo Verde - Antonio's Island

Since I completed the book about Columbus, I have found a lot more information that pertains to both Columbus and Antonio de Noli especially regarding their time on the Portuguese islands. The main reference for the new information is based on the book “Africa versus America” by the Duchess of Medina Sidonia who died in 2008. I only became aware of the book after an acquaintance mentioned the book to me after learning of my strong interest in the subject matter. According to the author of the book, she spent 30 years doing research on the historical documents that are archived in Sanlucar de Barremeda in the Province of Cadiz in southern Spain. The book has been considered to be controversial, apparently because she provides details about maps and documents about Africa and the New World that challenge the traditional views of the Discovery Age by western historians. Nevertheless, she claims to have read many accounts of important events and compared them to the documents of her family's historical files which are maintained by a private foundation, the, La Fundación Casa Medina Sidonia and based her conclusions on her documents.

It is important to note that her family was related directly to Queen Isabella. Here is what she has written on her web page at the foundation of Medina Sidonia: *Recopilación de los principales Documentos, que relacionados entre sí y con otros textos, prueban las conclusiones expuestas en este trabajo* **(Compilation of the main Documents, which (when) related to**

each other and to other texts, prove the conclusions presented in this work).

Her book details a lot of information that is extremely difficult to find. Here are some of the most intriguing elements of her research that attracted my interest:

1. **Antonio de Noli was living in Porto Santo (Madeira) when he discovered Cabo Verde in 1462.** Actually she uses the word, “rediscovered” because according to her information, the discovery of Cabo Verde was originally attributed to Cadamosto in 1456. However, that is a controversial statement that apparently may have been challenged in the past, but serious researchers no longer ascribe to that argument because the historical documents in Lisbon clearly demonstrate that Antonio de Noli is named as the official discoverer of the islands in 1460¹ (see also Annex 2). Two years after he discovered the islands, he is named as the first settler in 1462² (see also Annex 2(1/2)). This is extremely important, because the Duchess explains that Antonio de Noli was residing in Porto Santo when he discovered the islands and this statement makes a lot of sense, primarily because, the islands were reported to be uninhabited at the time and he would most likely be residing in Madeira while preparing

¹ Da Noli a Capo Verde. Pp.127-129. (See Annex 1).

² Ibid p.131. (See Annex 2)

to take possession of Cabo Verde and create a new civilization there.³

2. According to her information, Porto Santo was also called Cabo Verde at this time while explaining that Cabo Verde was known as both Cabo Verde and Antonio's Island (a direct reference to Antonio de Noli who officially discovered the islands). **Perhaps, even more important, she explains that Porto Santo actually belonged to Cabo Verde during this period⁴.** This makes sense, because at this time Antonio de Noli had a liberal contract from Portugal with jurisdiction over commercial trading with the west coast of Africa. In this situation, he could reside in both Porto Santo and Cabo Verde while engaging in commerce, especially since he could also trade with Madeira on a tax free basis.⁵ Bartolomeu Perestelo, the original governor of Porto Santo had died in 1457 or 58 and his son Bartolomeu II was too young to govern but his uncle, Pedro Correia and the future brother-in-law of Columbus' wife was given permission to lease the governorship that seems to create an interesting situation

³https://www.fcmedinasidonia.com/isabel_alvarez_toledo/africaversusamerica/0documentosmarco/menudocumentos.htm 3 Jun 2019 (1476-1478).

⁴ "Africa versus America" Graficas Lizarra. Luisa Isabel Alvarez Toledo. Navarra. 2000 pp78/9.

⁵ Da Noli a Capo Verde. Op. Cit.pp.79/80.

to determine who is really in charge of Porto Santo. One possible solution to this dilemma would have been to give Antonio de Noli some kind of de facto recognition for a portion of the island as an extension of Cabo Verde, besides, since he was already living in Porto Santo before taking up residence in Cabo Verde, this suggests that he may have built a private residence there as well.

3. Since Porto Santo was being called Cabo Verde or Antonio's Island, it strongly implies that Antonio de Noli was very well known and a very famous person. **Furthermore, Porto Santo (Madeira) and Cabo Verde would easily be understood as being the same place in any stories being told by mariners.**
4. There is still another critical issue that must be taken into account in this story. It is very well known that it is virtually impossible to determine the whereabouts of Columbus prior to 1492, especially his time in Africa and Portugal. **Now with this new information by the Duchess, there is strong evidence that Antonio de Noli appears in the same places that have often been attributed to the other Genoese navigator serving the King in Portugal.**
5. During the war with Portugal, Carlos Varela **sacked Antonio's Island that was also called Porto Santo, on**

his way to Guinea.⁶ This event occurred in April 1476. Later that year in May, Varela continued to Cabo Verde where he captured Antonio de Noli where he was actually residing at the time. It is important to note that the Duchess documents Antonio de Noli as living in Porto Santo when he “rediscovered” Cabo Verde in 1462 and now in 1476 Porto Santo is still being called “Antonio’s Island” or Cabo Verde. **This information strongly implies that he was still living in both Porto Santo and Cabo Verde in 1476. The distance between the two islands is about 1500 -2000 miles.**

Now that the above information establishes a framework in which Antonio de Noli has been documented as living in both Porto Santo and Cabo Verde during the period between 1462 and 1476, it is now possible to provide well known historical facts that will dramatically alter our previous knowledge of history and the discovery period. In the past, historians usually wrote about Columbus as having resided in Portugal but without any documented proof of when and where in Portugal, although many writers referred to Porto Santo where his mother-in-law was living. Here are some known facts about Columbus:

1. Many writers have strongly suggested that his real name was not Columbus because he never signed his name as “Columbus.” He used a coded group of letters that form a

⁶ “Africa versus America” Op. Cit. p.88.

pyramid that writers have been trying to decode for centuries (See Annex 3 (1/3)).

2. There are many stories written about Columbus and the legendary “anonymous pilot” that undoubtedly circulated among seamen for many years. Although these stories have never been proven, there is substantial evidence to take them seriously (See Annex 6).
3. Despite the doubts and disbelief by distinguished historians, in the city of Huelva, Spain there are various elements that honor the navigator “Alonso Sanchez,” who is believed to be from that city; a monument in the Muelle Gardens. The statue was built in 1970 by the distinguished sculptor Antonio Leon Ortega and the inscription reads, “Al marino Alonso Sanchez de Huelva, pre-descubridor de Nuevo Mundo (To the mariner Alonso Sanchez of Huelva, pre-discoverer of the New World);⁷ the name of a park “Alonso Sanchez Park;” a secondary education institute (named after him) and a port rescue boat. Most of this information was provided to me by the Tourist Agency of Huelva. They fully understand that the story has never been proven; nevertheless, because of substantial circumstantial evidence it justified these memorials.

⁷ <https://historiasdelnuevomundo.wordpress.com/tag/alonso-sanchez-de-huelva/> Web. 4 June 2019.

4. Basically, the story of the pilot refers to a navigator who was lost at sea during a storm and wound up in the Caribbean on an island believed to be the Dominican Republic and after spending a couple of weeks there, the pilot and his crew embarked on the homeward journey whereby they experienced a horrible trip and were weak and dying, when they arrived on a Portuguese island where Columbus was living (According to Garcilaso, Op. Cit. p.22, 17 men departed Spain and not more than 5 arrived). Columbus treated the pilot in his “home” where he died a couple of days after all the others had perished. However, Columbus supposedly had the pilot provide him with all the necessary information to locate the new land that he visited. **It is for this reason that many writers believe that Columbus was emphatic in his proposal to discover new lands to the west because he knew exactly where they were located on his new map drawn up by the pilot before he died.**
5. When writers wrote about this story, they usually mentioned Porto Santo and or Cabo Verde as the most likely location where he was living, e. g. , one writer writes, “Algunos de los presentes que frequentaban el monasterio hablando con el extranjero (Colon), hacian memorias de que este habia vivido en Porto Santo y otras islas portuguesas.” Some of those present who frequented the monastery (La Rabida in Huelva) talking with the

foreigner (Colon), **recalled that he had lived in Porto Santo and other Portuguese islands.**⁸"

6. In the previous paragraph, reference is made to people who remembered him as living in Porto Santo or other Portuguese islands. Now, ironically, the Duchess of Medina Sidonia is convinced that another Genoese navigator was living in Porto Santo and Cabo Verde (another Portuguese island) during the time period when several writers establish the year of the incident with the anonymous pilot (See references 2 & 4).
7. There is a handwritten note at the top of the first page of an edition of a book that was published in Seville in 1511 and authored by Pietro Martire Anghiera (1457-1526). "*Cristóbal Colón, genovés de nacimiento, hombre pobre, habitó en Portugal durante muchos años en la isla de Madera, a la que llegaron por azar unos de aquel país que habían navegado con una gran tempestad y habían arribado a las islas últimamente descubiertas (Cabo Verde?); y cuando el piloto enfermó de muerte, él en persona dio al susodicho Cristóbal noticia de aquellas regiones en el año 1475.*" "**Cristobal Colon, Genoese by birth, (...) lived in Portugal many years on an island of Madeira, to which they came by chance from that country from which they had sailed with a great storm and had arrived at the islands**

⁸ "Martin Alonso Pinzon" Carlos Rivera. Imprensa Asilo Provincial. Ayamonte MCMXLV. P.40.

recently discovered (**Cabo Verde?**) ; and the dying pilot personally gave the afore-said Christopher news about those regions **in the year 1475.**”⁹

8. I consider this last observation as a matter of great interest regarding the whereabouts of Columbus during the period of his time in Portugal. Someone had written a note on the cover of a book attributed to, a highly respected writer in the service of Queen Isabella, and states emphatically that Columbus had been living on the island of Madeira for many years in 1475 when the incident with the dying pilot occurred (anonymous pilot) in 1475. There are several issues in this statement that are quite revealing. In 1475 he had been living in Madeira for many years; **this definitely means that he was living in Madeira many years before 1475** and long before 1476, the traditional year of his arrival in Portugal. In addition to these remarkable revelations the Duchess informs us that Antonio de Noli, who was an extremely famous Genoese navigator (my

⁹ <https://aguiphuelva.wordpress.com/2018/05/14/recordando-al-prenauta-alonso-sanchez/> Web. 5 August 2019.

comment), was residing on the island of Porto Santo during the years 1462 to 1476, **while also residing in Cabo Verde where he had a fine home.**¹⁰ Finally, the dying pilot arrives at some **“recently discovered” islands, which from my perspective is most likely Cabo Verde, since it was recently discovered in 1460 and settled in 1462** (Also, see the last page of this chapter). Madeira was discovered more than 55 years before 1475 **so that statement strongly suggests that it would be Cabo Verde.** It seems like the author meant to say Porto Santo; the only other habitable island in the archipelago of Madeira. But, if we consider the confusion surrounding the usage of the words, Porto Santo, Cabo Verde and Antonio’s Island as being the same place, then it is very possible that the author really meant Cabo Verde when he used the phrase; **“they had arrived at islands recently discovered.”**

9. There is another famous book about the story of the anonymous pilot written by Garcilazo de la Vega that was published in Lisbon in 1609. He is the author who gave the name of the pilot as being Alonso Sanchez of Huelva based on stories that he heard from his father when he was young and living in Peru as the son of a Peruvian Princess and a Spanish conquistador. He makes a very curious statement in his book about the event and the crew’s decisión to

¹⁰ “Africa versus America” Op. Cit. P.79.

return from the island newly discovered (Santo Domingo?) and to stop on the island where Columbus was living; “(...) Fueron a para a casa del famoso genoves porque supieron que era gran piloto y cosmógrafo y que hacia cartas de marear,(...)” “(,,)They went to the home of the famous Genoese **because they knew that he was a famous pilot and map maker who made maps of the sea(...).**”¹¹ The problem that I find with this statement is the mariners apparently were very knowledgeable of Columbus’ fame as a navigator and map maker while he was still living in Portugal before going to Spain. Garcilaso doesn’t seem to give any legitimate reason that explains how Columbus was famous when he was living in Portugal. So it seems to me that the stories that he most likely heard when he was young **would have referred to a Genoese navigator who was famous and well known at that time** and then later when Columbus became famous, they just would have naturally assumed the famous Genoese navigator would have been Columbus, since afterall there were many stories among the mariners that referred to this incident.

Historical statements by some important writers that strongly suggest that Columbus was living in Cabo Verde:

¹¹ “Garcilazo de la Vega. “Comentarios Reales.” Lisbon. 1609. P.23.
<http://museogarcilaso.culturacusco.gob.pe/mediaelement/pdf/3-ComentariosReales.pdf> Web.5 June 2020.

1. **Las Casas** tells us that Columbus could have sailed on the discovery voyage of Cabo Verde in 1460.¹²
2. In his book *Histórias Generales y Naturales de Indias*, Madrid. 1535., **Gonzalo de Fernando Oviedo** says that there were stories circulating in the ports that say that Columbus was living in Cabo Verde when the unfortunate “anonymous pilot” arrived there. This story strongly suggests that the story that the professor Juan Gil attributes to Tudela; which states that the pilot arrived at islands “recently discovered”; was clearly intended to mean Cabo Verde.
3. Oviedo actually said that, “some say that Columbus was living in Madeira, while others say that he was living in Cabo Verde (when the incident with the anonymous pilot occurred).”

¹² Lopez, Jose Cortez “*El tiempo africano de Cristobal Colón*” 1990.p.322. Las Casas, Bartolomé de. “*Historia de las Indias*” 1550? Lib I Cap. CXXX.

[https://gredos.usal.es/bitstream/handle/10366/69948/El tiempo africano de Cristobal Colon Pr.pdf?sequence=1](https://gredos.usal.es/bitstream/handle/10366/69948/El_tiempo_africano_de_Cristobal_Colon_Pr.pdf?sequence=1) Web. 24—04-2020.

4. **Mariano Fernandez Urresti** describes the same story attributed to Oviedo and says, “Where does Columbus find him? According to some, he was Andalusian and Columbus stumbled upon him in Madeira; according to others, he was from Biscay and **the future Admiral finds him dying in Cabo Verde or in Porto Santo.**”
5. **According to La Duquesa de Medina Sidonia there was much confusion with the names of Porto Santo, Cape Verde and Antonio’s Island because all three names were considered to be the same place.**
6. There is no agreement between those who cite the event. Oviedo wrote that some "say that Columbus was then on the island of Madeira and others on the island of Cabo Verde, and that he brought the caravel I said there." **Gomara (Francisco López de) prefers to see the meeting in Cabo Verde.ⁱ**

Clarification of unsolved mysteries

Since this supplement is really a continuation of my original work, “The Portuguese, Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese Born Columbus,” this section is a continuation of some of the unsolved mysteries as a result of some new information in my continuous research.

Unsolved Mystery # 1 Where does Columbus learn Spanish?

One interesting problem that repeatedly surfaces when discussing Columbus is his *native language*. *Here, for the purpose of my work, I am assuming that he is from* Genoa which is based on the writings of many contemporary historians and based on my personal analysis. However, I recently found an article that has created problems for other writers. In this particular case, one writer (Ramon Menedez Pidal in his book, *The Language of Christopher Columbus*. 1942.) argues that clearly his native language was not Spanish. This was determined by an in depth analysis of his writings that showed a lot of Portuguese usage in his pattern of writing. Then, finally the author determines, that Portuguese also was not his native language, but he did have a good command of Portuguese before going to Spain as well as knowledge of the Spanish language that enabled him to communicate in the language so this begs the question, **“Where did he learn Spanish?”**

Typically writers attribute his arrival in Portugal as being 1476 (some writers have suggested either 1476 or 1477)¹³” and this date is very problematic for historians to determine how he was able to speak Spanish in 1485 if he was residing in Portugal since 1476. This situation strongly suggests that historians are searching for the wrong Columbus because based upon the information in this supplement and my original work about Columbus; there are several ways that he would have learned Spanish in Portugal. In fact if my conclusions are correct, it would have been natural for him to learn Spanish because many members of his local community in Portugal were Spanish and living on the same island under his jurisdiction. Since historical extant writings show strong evidence that he was living in Cabo Verde for many years, there should easily be enough evidence as analyzed in my Columbus book to show clearly that he was in fact living in Cabo Verde for many years.

Unfortunately, many writers are unaware that many Spaniards actually resided in Cabo Verde during the 15th century and that there existed at the time, strong relations with the Canary Islands in commercial trade.¹⁴

Now, with the new knowledge that the Duchess has provided, it is much easier to connect the dots and determine exactly where

¹³ “D,Cristobal Colom ou Symam Palha” Pestana Junior. Imprensa Lucas & C.ª. Lisboa. 1928. P.CXXIV.

¹⁴ “Africa versus America” Op. Cit. P.78.

Columbus was living in Portugal. **All indications show him to be in the exact same locations as the Duchess verifies regarding the other Genoese navigator as previously mentioned.** The real problem is and has always been that writers usually accept the legendary arrival of Columbus in Portugal as the year 1476. This argument is easily refuted in my previous book and should be reinforced in this supplement now that new information is available to support the original arguments, for example, one writer locates Columbus in Lisbon in 1470¹⁵ (also see Annex 15). This is a remarkable statement attributed to Columbus' son (no name mentioned). Unfortunately, the statement leaves the reader wanting more details. Nevertheless, it does seem to be a pattern with the story of Columbus that just when the writer thinks he has found something important, it usually turns out to be an illusion. However, this case is a little different, because, other writers have found information that easily supports the idea that Columbus was actually living in Portugal, many years before 1476 (See the previous paragraph and also the chapter about Madeira, Porto Santo and Cabo Verde). So, in this case it may have been a slip of the tongue (or the pen) but yet it definitely supports the argument that other writers have already recognized.

The other Genoese navigator was captured by the Spanish and spent a year in captivity, so he would have had plenty of time to speak Spanish. Contemporary writings also demonstrate that in

¹⁵Feuillet Conches F. (Felix) "Portraits of Columbus." Paris. 1891. Colombo em Lisboa em 1470 Translated by E.D.York. Web. 17 Dec. 2019.

1460 he spent a few weeks in Seville where he met with the Genoese community before arriving in Portugal and meeting with the King. So if we replace the name of Columbus with the name of the other Genoese navigator in Portugal who was living in Porto Santo and other Portuguese islands, then we have only one Genoese navigator who fits that description. That person is almost certainly Antonio de Noli, who was reportedly living in both Porto Santo and Cabo Verde. This explanation also helps to clarify the problem in trying to determine if Columbus was residing in Porto Santo or Cabo Verde, because both places were given the same names by the mariners who frequented the various seaports in their travels. Thus, as a result of the confusion by using the names of Porto Santo and Cabo Verde to mean the same place despite being separated by about 1500 miles or more and being controlled by the same person, it is reasonable to understand why historians had trouble decoding the mystery of Columbus. And since both places were also known as Antonio's Island, hence, there is one more reason for more confusion (See Annex 5).

Unsolved Mystery # 2 When did he go to Thule?

There is still another detail that adds intrigue to this unsolved mystery; Columbus' infamous voyage to Thule in February of 1477. This is perhaps, the only time that he provides us with a month and year in his legendary travels. That is certainly more than just a coincidence according to my way of thinking.

Fortunately, I'm not the only one who sees this problem and specifically with his trip to Thule. Here is what Blasco Ibanez has to say: "(...) Afterwards, Maestre Cristóbal made a trip to the seas in northern Europe, beyond the British Isles. He claimed to have been in Tule, the island of which Seneca and other ancient authors spoke of as (being) the most remote on earth, which was later given the name of Iceland by the Scandinavians. Dr. Acosta, hearing him, withdrew the conclusion (as) that this was doubtful. Perhaps he didn't pass through any of the islands in the north of England, on those (islands) where the Portuguese ships went to load tin, **Maestre Cristóbal, amusing in his stories, had the defect of having seen countries that he only knew from the testimonies of others.** Marco Polo had done the same, Mandeville, Conti and other explorers of Asia. Half of the countries they had actually visited, (and) describing the rest according to what they had heard from others in the ports."¹⁶

Note: Despite the fact that the author published his book as a novel, he clearly has a profound understanding of the problems with analyzing the legends of Columbus. Although many historians have given credence to the Thule trip supposedly made by Columbus, Ibanez makes it very clear that in his opinion such a voyage never happened. In fact, his position on this matter is very similar to other writers.

¹⁶ "En Busca del Gran Khan "by Blasco Ibañez 1929 Prometeo Valencia. P.60. Web. 26 May 2019.

Unsolved Mystery # 3 Was He Famous in Portugal?

In 1609 the famous book, “Comentários Reales” was published by the Spanish / Peruvian author, El Inca Garcilaso de la Vega who wrote that in 1484 a pilot, “(...) a native of the province of Huelva, bordered on Portugal, called Alonso Sánchez de Huelva (...) “ wanted to stop at the house of the famous Cristóbal Colón, Genoese because he knew that he was a great pilot and cosmographer and that he made maritime charts(...).”

Comments: Colombo was not famous in 1484 during his stay in Portugal and the only Genoese pilot famous in Portugal who knew how to make sea charts, must be Antonio de Noli. He discovered the islands of Cabo Verde which were known as António’s Island in official documents of the Catholic kings.¹⁷ He was also the only foreigner to be the captain of a captaincy in Portugal, in addition to the privileges of his heirs (see Annex 2/2).

Unsolved Mystery # 4 Did Columbus offer his proposal to Dom John II?

According to many legendary stories, Columbus offered his plan of discovery to King Dom John II who rejected him and then went to Spain.

¹⁷ Balla, M. “A Estória “Incrível” de Colombo em Cabo Verde” 2014, Anexo 41.

Comments: It seems that everything is changing dramatically based on new studies, especially in Spain. New documents show that Columbus went to offer his proposal to King Dom Afonso V of Portugal and not to Dom John II as it is traditionally written. The latest revelation was published in March 2019.¹⁸ This new information should be a game changer.

Unsolved Mystery # 5 When did he arrive in Portugal?

According to information written in the margin of the book (See Annex 11), Columbus was already living in Madeira for many years before 1475. In this case it must be in the 60s. This document is preserved in the National Library of Spain in Madrid and was apparently written in the early part of the 16th century and by chance was discovered by Professor Juan Gil and published in the book, “*Cartas particulares a Colón y relaciones coetâneas*,” p. 128. 1984.

Unsolved Mystery # 6 Did Columbus know the Portuguese in Cabo Verde?

In the past, Columbus referred to his time in Cabo Verde and Guinea, but never explained when?

18 Juan Franciso Maura.

https://issuu.com/publicacionesaacid/docs/ch824_febrero Web 22-08-2019.

Comments: In the book about Columbus that I have written, I made many references on this topic, but now I have an additional source with strong implications that he spent plenty of time in Cabo Verde when he was in Portugal. The author, José Manuel Garcia, tells us on page 56 of his book “O Conhecimento das Americas 1462-1533” (The Knowledge of the Americas 1462-1533).” He makes reference to the 3rd voyage in 1498 and writes(...),”Colombo entrou desta vez na area portuguesa do Atlantico até as ilhas de Cabo Verde, onde foi muito bem recebido pelas autoridades locais.(...) (Columbus entered this time in the Portuguese area of the Atlantic at the islands of Cabo Verde **where he was very well received by the local authorities**).” He also adds more important information: “Christopher Columbus arrived on Santiago Island on July 1, 1498, where he contacted the main Portuguese personalities who lived there, having taken the opportunity to gather very valuable information.” Also, another writer, <https://francescalbardaner.jimdo.com/francesc-albardaner/> (Web. 6 Nov. 2019.) tells us that according to the biography by Columbus’ son, Fernando; Columbus made voyages to La Mina and **Cabo Verde under the Portuguese flag (1477-1484).**

Unsolved Mystery #7 “I am not the first admiral in my family.” (A famous statement by Columbus).

Now we have new information that can shed light on this theme. There is a new book that has been published in Italy, authored by

the well known retired professor Gabriela Airaldi, one of Italy's most revered historians. In her book, "*Andrea Dorea- Un principe di mare che guidó la Repubblica di Genova tra guerre, imperialismi e difesa della libert *," In a critique of this book, under the name of Enrico Ferrari, it is written, "Andrea Doria (...), qui apprese l'arte nautica da un vecchio capitano, **Bartolomeo da Noli.**" ("Andrea Doria (...), here he learned the nautical arts from an old captain, **Bartolomeo da Noli.**")¹⁹ In any case, Bartolomeo da Noli appears to be living in Oneglia teaching a young Andrea Doria, the nautical arts during the 1480s. This book was published in 2016 and modified in 2019. This information provided me with new clues in researching the Noli and Columbus families. As a result of this latest investigation here is what I found:

1. A book was published in 1951 by Nilo Calvini about the Colombos in Oneglia.²⁰
2. **This family included a famous pirate named Vincenzo Colombo in Oneglia who was sponsored by the Doria family.**²¹

¹⁹ "Un libro sull' onegliese Andrea Doria:La presentazione sabato in biblioteca nel 550 anni dalla nascita,LaStampa.it/Imperi-San Remo/2016/11/09."Web. 05-03-2020.

²⁰ Calvini, Nilo. "Studi e documenti sui Colombo di Val d'Oneglia." Genova. 1951.

3. **Columbus sailed on a boat captained by his uncle Imperiale Doria, who belonged to the family of the future famous admiral Andrea Doria.**²²
4. Columbus **learned seamanship from the Doria family of Oneglia.**²³
5. The name Colombo is not the family name of the discoverer but rather a name that some believed was adopted.²⁴ It seems that this name could be linked to the pirate Vincenzo Colombo, who was considered to be protected by the Doria family of Oneglia.
6. Columbus had visited all of the Atlantic islands from the Azores to Madeira and the Canary Islands and also **Cabo Verde** before 1492.²⁵
7. The courts of Portugal and Castile have been blamed for censuring the past of Columbus in such a way that It remains in obscurity even today.²⁶

²¹ Cristóvão Colon-Novos Factos e Pistas a seguir Forum - <https://geneall.net>forum>cristoao-colon-novosfactos-e-a-seguir> Web. 2 Mar. 2020. Note: This site, directed by Manuel da Rosa, offers many rare viewpoints about Columbus.

²² Ibid. Forum nº149723.

²³ Ibid.

²⁴ Ibid.

²⁵ Ibid.

This new information provides the researcher with rare information about the Columbus family and the relationship with the Doria family. Assuming that the information is valid, it strongly suggests that in addition to Columbus being a direct relative of the famous Doria family but it seems that he was indebted to this family for providing him with the necessary training to be a skilled seaman and this perceived debt helps to explain why Bartolmeo da Noli (?) went to Oneglia to train Andrea Doria in the art of nautical skills.

The young Andrea had been orphaned by the family. **What is striking about this story is the fact that the Columbus family seems to be indebted to the Doria family but that it is actually, Antonio de Noli's brother Bartolomeo (?), who seems to be repaying the debt.**

In Airaldi's book, (Op. Cit.) She said in Part I-Book 1-p. 12/14; "(...) nel suo stesso ramo onegliese (Andrea Doria) annovera avi ammiragli" ["(...) in his own branch of Oneglia (Andrea Doria), he has admirals among his ancestors"], while number 3 above, explains that **Imperiale Doria was Columbus's uncle. So if the two (different) sources are authentic, it means that Columbus had admirals in his family as he stated.** She also made a very curious statement, when she writes in Part II-Book III-p.12/13, that, "Colombo fa in tempo a conoscerlo prima che muoia nel 1497"/(**"Columbus has time to meet him (Antonio de Noli) before he died in 1497."**)

²⁶ Ibid. Forum n°14973.

Ironically, I made a similar statement in my book, “The History of Cabo Verde 550 Years (1460-2010) in Paintings”, when I painted a scene in Cabo Verde of Columbus visiting Antonio de Noli and wrote on this page, **“In this picture I wanted to show the two navigators together since there is a strong possibility that this encounter took place before 1492 based on historical data.”** The painting was completed about 10 years **before** the international conference in the city of Noli that commemorated the 550 year history of Cabo Verde.

Fortunately, the book review by Sabatelli at the beginning of this book highlights the problem regarding the **implied death** of Antonio de Noli in 1497, in the last paragraph, where it is stated that immediately after the king released Antonio de Noli from prison in Spain, “He disappeared without a trace. He could have died (...) but another document dated 1497, leaves a lot of questions unanswered.” **So, for the last 10 years I have been seeking answers to these questions in my research which are now presented in this book.**

Columbus visits António de Noli.



The painting was first published in the book "Antonio's Island" M. G. Balla 2003 Braiswick

Most historians are in agreement with the theory that Columbus visited Cabo Verde before his voyage to America. Unfortunately, practically no one speaks about the possible meeting between Antonio de Noli and Columbus. But apparently since Antonio de Noli was in Cabo Verde for many years, it is very probable that the two explorers could have met one another at least once in Cabo Verde.

In this picture I wanted to show the two navigators together since there is a strong possibility that this encounter took place before 1492 based on historical data.

As a minimum I hope that other historians will pursue these arguments and develop this hypothesis in greater detail.



The book about Andrea Doria by Gabriela Airaldi in 2016 and the book about the Columbus family in Oneglia in 1951 by Nino Calvini.

Reliable sources that Columbus had been living many years in Madeira before 1475.

www.academia.edu/8014900/Ecdotica

This web site offers an important analysis of the discovery made by Professor Juan Gil regarding the edition of Peter Martyr's works in 1511 that has the note written about Columbus in Madeira in 1475 (Best to read first 11 pages of article above)*

(ecdótica y crítica textual en fernán perez de oliva page 11)

* This statement appears to be based on a translation from Latin by Dr. Juan Gil who recently found an edition of the first published works of Pedro Martyr that was published in Seville in 1511. According to www.academia.edu/8014900/Ecdotica (Web29-07-2019) there is a note along the margins of a document written in Latin by the professionally licensed scribe, Tudela. This note was recently found and translated by Juan Gil into Spanish and offers a more complete translation of this text.

Here is the more complete version which provides an additional sentence that is quite remarkable during this historical era:
Cristóbal Colón, genovés de nacimiento, hombre pobre, habitó en

Portugal durante muchos años en la isla de la Madera, a la que llegaron por azar unos de aquel país que habían navegado con una gran tempestad y habían arribado a las islas últimamente descubiertas; y cuando el piloto enfermó de muerte, él en persona dio al susodicho Cristóbal noticia de aquellas regiones en el año 1475". El dicho Colon marchó a presencia del rey de Portugal Alfonso que, como estaba por aquel entonces enzarzado en las guerras con Castilla, no lo escuchó; entonces Cristóbal acudió ante Fernando, rey de Castilla, y así hizo el primer viaje en el año 1492 y descubrió las islas Españolas, Fernandina y otras muchas."

"Christopher Columbus, Genoese by birth, a poor man, had been living in Portugal for many years on the island of Madera, where some of that country arrived by chance who had sailed with a great storm and had arrived at the recently discovered islands; and when the pilot became ill and was dying, he personally gave the aforementioned Christopher news of those regions in the year 1475. The said Colon went to present himself to the King of Portugal, Alfonso who, was at that time engaged in the wars with Castile and did not listen to him; Then Christopher went to Fernando, King of Castile, and thus made the first trip in 1492 and discovered the Spanish islands, Fernandina and many others.
"

Although there have been many versions of this story that have been summarized by some very prominent writers in the past, I find this version to be quite different from the others based on my personal observations:

1. This is the first time that the incident with the unknown pilot occurs **before** 1476.
2. This statement also strongly suggests that Columbus went to speak directly with the King of Portugal. In other words, he had direct access to the King. This fact is also extremely important to understand because at this time there was another Genoese navigator in Portugal, who did in fact have access to the King, while Columbus; in principle; would not have had such access.²⁷
3. In this statement, Columbus had already been living in Madeira for many years in 1475. This is very unusual information because the other Genoese navigator had been living in both Madeira and Cabo Verde for many years during this time,²⁸ while it was not unusual for people to say that Columbus had been living in Madeira and other Portuguese islands.²⁹ One writer recognizes that there were different versions relating to the voyages of Columbus, especially concerning his relations with the Portuguese and his possible sources of information.³⁰

²⁷ Blake, John W. "Europeans in West Africa 1450 – 1560" pp224-226. London 1942.

²⁸ Alvarez de Toledo. "Africa versus America" Op. Cit.

²⁹ Rivera C. Op. Cit. P.40.

³⁰ Ibanez B. "En Busca Del Gran Khan" Op. Cit. P.60.

4. The distinguished Peruvian/Spanish historian, Garcilaso de la Vega, offered an unusual perspective in his famous book, “*Comentarios Reales*” published in 1609. “(...) *Fueron a parar a casa del famoso Cristóval Colón ginovés, porque supieron que era gran piloto y cosmógrafo y que hazla cartas de marear,(...).*” (They went to stop at the home of the **famous** Cristobal Colon Genoese, because **they knew that he was a famous pilot and map maker who made sea charts for mariners** (...).”

This story was becoming somewhat complicated if I wanted to grasp the full meaning and consequences for this book, so I decided to locate the original book, “*Cartas particulares a Colón y relaciones coetaneas*” authored by Juan Gil and Consuelo Varela. As fate would have it, the only book that I could locate was in a library in Seville, so I decided to catch a bus from my home in Portugal and go to the library and read it and learn more about this story. I was interested in learning more about the scribe, Tudela. Who was he? And why did he write this note in the original book written by Pedro Martyr? I also wanted to know any other details that Gil may have written about this issue. Here’s what I found:

1. The book was published in 1984 in Madrid. The Internet had given the date as 1989.
2. The complete reference regarding the note written by the scribe was published in Latin that was transcribed directly

from the original book along with the Spanish translation that was cited earlier.

3. Gil gave several references of famous historians who had written about this event (the anonymous pilot) and then writes, “La versión que presento aquí, desconocida al parecer, figura en el margen superior del primer folio de una edición de las obras de Pedro Mártir (Sevilla, 1511), que fue propiedad del fiscal D. Fernando José de Velasco (hoy en Madrid, BN, R/3436), pero antes perteneció al licenciado de Tudela, que escribió la apostilla en la primera mitad del siglo XVI, a juzgar por los caracteres paleográficos de su letra. (...) Tudela es el único en dar fecha exacta a la estancia de Colón en Madera, el 1475 (...).”

“The version that I am presenting here, seems to have been unknown, it is written in the margin at the top of the first page of an edition of the works of Pedro Martir (Seville, 1511), that was owned by the fiscal D. Fernando José de Velasco (today it is in Madrid BN [national Library] R/3436), **but it previously was the property of the licensed scribe Tudela, who wrote the marginal note in the first half of the 16th century** judging from the paleographic characters of his handwriting. (..)Tudela is the only one who gives an exact date when Columbus was living in Madeira (1475) (...).”

My comments:

Juan Gil provides some very interesting information of inestimable value that sheds new light on the legends of Columbus. In his book he refers to many renowned writers who wrote about the anonymous pilot but emphasizes the fact that only one source gave the exact time when he was living in Madeira. However, this source comes with other problems. The main problem is that it is a handwritten note on the first page of the book authored by Pedro Martir and there isn't any signature to verify the author of the note or even a date when it was written (see Annex 11). So, who wrote the note? According to Gil, the author of the note was a scribe by the name of Tudela and even this is not clear in his book because at one point he refers to the author as "un Licenciado de Tudela," (a licensed scribe from Tudela.)" Shortly thereafter, he refers to Tudela (the name of the scribe) as being the only one who gives an exact date when Columbus was living in Madeira (see previous paragraph above).

I tried to learn more about the scribe, Tudela so I visited a friend of mine who has professional knowledge of Latin and medieval Spanish and asked for his opinion. First of all, he said that the scribe was very well educated and wrote in classical Latin. He also said that it was very rare to write in Latin during this period. When I asked him about possible motives that might be considered to determine why the scribe wrote his comments, My friend suggested, that **the scribe must have known something about this story.**

He also agreed with Gil, that the handwriting was most likely written in the first half of the 16th century. This is important to know, because the scribe was most likely a contemporary of Columbus and most likely had privileged information. Also because his Latin was that of a very well educated person, it is very possible that he was a member of the clergy as was the author of the book, Pedro Martyr.

Based on the information that I am presenting here and my personal knowledge of the pertinent data referring to Columbus and Antonio de Noli in either Madeira or Cabo Verde and if I assume that the note believed to be written by Tudela is accurate, then I have no other choice but to say that this new information is virtually irrefutable evidence that this marginal note is referring directly to Antonio de Noli and not Columbus.

According to reliable historical information, there aren't any known documents that reveal the name that "Columbus" used during his residency in Portugal.³¹ In this same article it is written, "[At the time he lived in Portugal he was still called Colombo, but when he moved to Castile he changed his name" as his son

³¹.Ref:<https://expresso.pt/sociedade/2017-06-03-Colombo-genoves--Uma-historia-de-ideias-feitas> Um estudo mostra que, "(...) não se conhece nenhum documento que demonstre qual era o seu nome em Portugal.(...)" (there aren't any known documents that shows what name he used in Portugal)." Web. Feb. 2020.

and biographer Hernando Colon told us] (Here I must underline another problem with the biographer of Hernando Colón; the original of the book has been lost and the world is dependent primarily on a book that was translated from Spanish into Italian by Alfonso Ulloa, a Spaniard and published in Venice in 1571, 32 years after Hernando's death in **1539 and suddenly his name became Fernando Colombo, a name that he never used in his life and the first time that the Admiral appeared under the name of Christoforo Colombo in my investigation.**-See Annex 14).

This statement strongly suggests that Colombo had his name changed when he went to Castile after his residence in Portugal and also to give the impression that his name was Colombo when he was living there. **But unfortunately, according to the study already mentioned, the name of Colombo did not exist in Portugal, because as it is written in the newspaper, “Now if we are talking about the Admiral, the fact is, that there aren’t any known documents that tell us what his name was in Portugal.” So, the fact is, he changed his name to Colón when he went to Castile and in Portugal the name of the Admiral as Colombo did not exist. Therefore, it must be obvious that he had another name when he lived in Portugal.**

However, there is ample evidence to show that, **yes, there was a famous Genoese navigator living in Madeira and Cabo Verde during this time and his name was Antonio de Noli.**, In the book “Martin Alonzo Piñzon,” on page 40, the author, Carlos Rivera, describes a scene in “La Rabida” in the monastery; “Algunos de

los presentes que frequentaban el monasterio, hablando con el extranjero (Colón), hacian memoria de que este habia vivido en Puerto Santo y otras islas portuguesas.” (“Some of those present, who frequented the monastery, speaking with the foreigner (Columbus), **remembered that he had lived in Porto Santo and other Portuguese islands.**”).

This statement unequivocally suggests that when Columbus arrived in the monastery in Spain, after departing Portugal, there were people in the local area (Huelva) who would have recognized him from the time he was residing in Porto Santo, Madeira, especially since many seamen from Huelva had been trading in Madeira (according to the legend of the anonymous pilot).

The comment by Garcilaso should also be taken into account (See Annex 6) because in spite of the differences in his version of the story, he does make a significant observation. He tells us that Columbus, a Genoese, was **a famous pilot and mapmaker while he was living on a Portuguese island before going to Spain.**

This comment appears to be a direct reference to Antonio de Noli because Columbus was not famous when he was living in Portugal. Thus, it is my conclusion that the statement by Tudela (based on the comments by the translator, Juan Gil) is the strongest confirmation so far that not only is the story about the anonymous pilot highly credible but also that **this story is far more credible when the name of Columbus is substituted with that of Antonio de Noli. That is the only way the story makes sense.** Since it is well known by reputable historians, the name Columbus was invented and not the name of the

famous navigator who discovered the New World (See Annexes 3 & 14).

Basically, the only remaining question to be answered is; “How do we confirm the note written by Tudela? The only answer that I can give at this moment in time is this: I see no plausible reason why a seemingly well educated scribe would intentionally misrepresent such an important historical event with such explicit details that only a person with privileged knowledge would have access. The details of his statement are extraordinary for the trained historian who specializes in this history.

In the meantime, it certainly appears that Juan Gil must have more information about the scribe Tudela, other than what is written here. Perhaps at a later date there could be more information forthcoming

from his personal perspective, but for now, this is the best that I can offer on this remarkable revelation.

Extraordinary new details about the anonymous pilot and Columbus.

After reviewing an article published by Juan Francisco Mauro regarding a newly discovered document about Columbus and the “anonymous pilot” by Cesareo Fernandez Duro, I was able to examine the consequences in great detail and learned a lot more about this story.³²

Here is a list of my key findings:

1. I was able to compare and confirm the transcribed document in the article with the reproduction of a copy of the original.³³ However, there was one remarkable observation in reading this copy. **The sentence that recorded the year of the incident with the “anonymous pilot” had a line drawn underneath to highlight the**

³² https://issuu.com/publicacionesaacid/docs/ch824_febrero Web. 11-06-2020.

³³ Reference: Royal Academy of History (Madrid) document-9-5908_byn_0004. TIFF image. In this reference it is written, (“This one which seems to be the original or contemporary to Columbus, is undoubtedly a copy of those times of the Catholic monarchs: it belongs to the diplomatic collection of the Academy, formed by Dr. Francisco de Ribera and D. António Murzillo (...).”

date of 1475.³⁴ I have seen many documents in libraries and archives and only twice have I seen a word or sentence underlined and both of these involved Columbus and Antonio de Noli as if revealing a dark historical secret.

2. The text was taken from the *Cartas y Decadas* by Pietro Martyr Angleria.³⁵
3. The reproduced copy does not appear to be the original because it was written in 16th century Spanish paleography and the author is believed to have always written in Latin the works he intended to print.
4. This document appears to have been first mentioned on 3 February 1509.³⁶
5. According to Henry R. Wagner in his book, “*Peter Martyr and his Works*”, the entire first decade relates to the expeditions of Columbus and Pinzon.³⁷

³⁴ Ibid.9-5908_byn_0008. Imagen TIFF

³⁵ Ibid.9-5908_byn_0004. Imagen TIFF

³⁶ Ibid.9-5908_byn_0003. Imagen TIFF

³⁷ www.americanantiquarian.org/Proceedings/44817425 Wagner, Henry R. , “Peter Martir and His Works”1946. p. 251 Web 3 Oct. 2019.

6. It was finished in either 1500 or 1501, except for the epilogue.³⁸
7. According to Wagner, Martyr allowed copies to be made of the first 3 decades by some of the Venetian ambassadors to Spain, thus Wagner believed that Martyr knew of the publication.³⁹(See also Annex 10 (3/3)).
8. A transcript was given to an Italian (who was later identified by Michael Brennan in his book; *The Texts of Peter Martyr's De Orbe Novo Decada (1504-1628): A Response to Andrew Hadfield / Connotations Vol. 6.2 1996/97*, as Anzalo Tevisan, aka Trurgiano, a secretary of an Italian Ambassador to Spain) who took it to Italy where it was printed in 1504 as *Libretto de tutta navigatione del Re de Spagna*.⁴⁰ It is this edition that Martyr complained about as having been printed without his permission.⁴¹
9. Wagner also said, “He (Martyr) himself printed the First Decade in 1511 in Seville (...) and was responsible for

³⁸ Ibid. P.251.

³⁹ Ibid p.251. Note 36.

⁴⁰ Brennan.Op. Cit. P.230.

⁴¹ Wagner. Op. Cit.. p.251. Note. 36.

printing the first three decades in Alcalá in 1516.⁴² However, according to the book, “Decadas Del Nuevo Mundo,” Editorial Bajel, Buenos Aires, MCMXLIV p. XXIV; “Trurgiano's translation printed in the “libretto” comprises most of the first decade of Martyr’s “De Orbe Novo,” nine books of which were first published (and without Martyr’s permission, as they say)“ in Seville in 1511. The first Decade was published for the first time in its entirety and by permission of Martyr in Alcala in the year 1511. ”

10. Michael Brennan, (Op. Cit.) stresses the fact that the first 2 decades were written as private correspondence in response to requests for information from Italian friends and patrons about the exciting Spanish discoveries undertaken during the first 10 years of the new century.⁴³
11. It was reprinted in 1507 in the *Paesi nuouamente retrouati*.
12. Martyr knew Columbus and **frequently** interviewed him.⁴⁴

⁴² Ibid. Pp.251/2.

⁴³ Brennan. Op. Cit. Pp. 229/230.

⁴⁴ Wagner. Op. Cit. P.270.

13. Of utmost interest to me throughout this research was an extraordinary statement by Wagner; “The “Libretto” contains facts in the very beginning about Columbus which were afterward *cut out*.”⁴⁵

This last sentence attracted my attention because by coincidence, the document discovered by Duro is at the very beginning of the book that I’ve been reading and it seems to have disappeared from Martyr’s later works. Perhaps some information about Columbus was taken out because of Martyr’s complaints. Fortunately, the document discovered by Duro at the Real Academia de la Historia in Madrid corroborates the legend of the “anonymous pilot” and includes a lot more details. Unfortunately, at least one page is missing and most likely contains the name of the island where the incident took place.

It is also quite interesting that Martyr had frequent contact with Columbus and since he was also an Italian who left his homeland seeking a better life in Spain (and probably leaving for political reasons due to the constant turmoil in Italy at that time), I suspect that they had a lot in common. This situation would very likely allow them to be more frank and open in their communications with one another, especially since they were both serving the Spanish Crown. It is also a well known fact that many mariners had heard stories about Columbus and the “anonymous pilot,” so common sense would suggest that some Italians would be asking Martyr to learn more about this story. Another reason Columbus

⁴⁵ Ibid. p. 279.

would have wanted close relations with Martyr was his desire to have friends close to the Royal Crown and that would certainly include Martyr who was a confessor of the Queen.⁴⁶ There is also another source; Baldomero Lorenzo y Leal, a writer who writes in his book, “Cristobal Colón y Alonso Sanchez,” told the secret of the “anonymous pilot” to some people of the highest authority, who were close to the Catholic Monarchs who helped with his enterprise.⁴⁷ And of course, Martyr would have an excellent source of information for his friends in Italy. So their relationship would also have been served by mutual interests.

In summary it can be said that Martyr’s letters were intended as private correspondence and were later printed without his permission although he was probably aware of this problem. Since the story of Columbus and the “anonymous pilot” occurred in Portugal in 1475 in a book attributed to Martyr, this should be strong evidence of the validity of the story. Ironically, there is another book by Martyr that was published in Seville in 1511.⁴⁸ This book has a handwritten note of 2 sentences in Latin and

⁴⁶ Rivera, Carlos. “Martin Alonso Pinzon” IMPRENTA ASILO PROVINCIAL. Ayamonte.MCMXLV. P.56.

⁴⁷Baldomero, Lorenzo y Leal. “Cristobal Colón y Alonso Sanchez.” 1892. P. 84. Web.29/11/2019.

⁴⁸ Martyris ab Angleria Medioanensi. “Opera” Sevilha 1511. Hoje em Madrid BN R/3436. (Referência: Gil, Juan; Varela, Consuelo. Cartas particulares a Colón y Relaciones coetâneas. Alianza Universidad. 1984. P. 127).

names the island of Madeira as the place of this legendary story. Otherwise this note is very similar to the previous story.

The fact that Martyr wrote many private letters to his correspondents that were not meant for publication and later after being published without his permission, then eventually having some portions of the published writings removed, obviously creates some very interesting scenarios. For the purpose of this work, I am only interested in the part about Columbus that was “cut out.” Since the discovered document reveals some very important details about Columbus and the pilot and believed to have been completed in 1500 or 1501 and according to Wagner, a transcript was given to an Italian who took it to Italy (Venice) where it was printed in 1504. Another source suggests that it was published without the knowledge of Martyr (See number 9 above). I believe that when all the information is placed in chronological order, it will show the following:

1. That if Martyr obtained his information directly from Columbus about the story of the “anonymous pilot,” then this should be considered a firsthand source of information, especially if we can reasonably believe that the information was originally recorded by the author in an interview with Columbus. In this case, according to previous information, especially in paragraphs 7 & 8, a thorough study is needed, because Martyr has already admitted that he gave permission to some ambassadors to make copies, and **the secretary of the Venetian ambassador admitted that he obtained the matter, which he used for publication (in 1504) from a**

personal friend (Martyr) of Columbus (Reference: De Orb Novo, Op. Cit. p.249) (See Annex 10 (3/3)).

2. That some of the information in the first printing of the book in 1504 was removed after the author complained about it. It seems very likely that Martyr wanted to protect his friend Columbus and would have considered some details about him to be private and not for public consumption. Curiously, the author, Baldomero (Op. Cit.), Wrote on page 153 of his book, “Pedro Martir de Angleria was undoubtedly motivated by reasons of friendship to also keep his silence (A reference to the omission of the story of the anonymous pilot, in his writings); it is known that this famous historian was a distinguished servant at the court of the catholic monarchs, and a close friend of Columbus; (...)”
3. Based on the available documentary evidence, it seems reasonable to believe that this new information was given personally to Martyr by Columbus. If this statement is true, then it suggests that Columbus was living in Madeira in 1475.

Taking into consideration, the facts cited above which strongly suggest that Columbus was residing in Madeira during the 1470s and especially the year 1475 which has been recorded on at least two accounts; **this situation dramatically changes the dynamics of the traditional stories of Columbus in Portugal**. Typically, historians say that Columbus arrived in Portugal in 1476, but this

new information strongly suggests otherwise. Hopefully, astute historians will use this information to take a closer look at Madeira and Columbus during this period in addition to his adventures in Cabo Verde.

It should also be strongly suggested that any serious writer trying to concentrate on Columbus in Madeira and Cabo Verde, should do a detailed study of the works of Martyr. It's not enough, to read commercial books about Columbus. A true historian must spend time in the national archives and libraries of Spain and Portugal and be able to read original documents in Spanish and Portuguese paleography as well as Latin. He or she should also have a good understanding of the new information released about Antonio de Noli in Cabo Verde and Madeira between 1462 and 1476 in the book "Africa versus America" by the Duchess of Medina Sidonia, Luísa Isabel Alvarez de Toledo. Another very important detail to understand is that you need to find documents written with Martyr's handwriting. In this case we would be able to compare the letters written in the margin of the book published in Seville in 1511 and now conserved in the National Library in Madrid, to determine if it was written by Martir.

Summary

In summarizing the contents of this review, I felt an obligation to update some of the information that was written in my original book about Columbus. Obviously when writing about the navigator one must be prepared to face many challenges from skeptics, many who have investigated him for many years. Thus, it becomes imperative to make an honest effort to meet these anticipated challenges. However, I never expected my research to lead me in this direction until I realized that there was something that was quite bizarre about this story when I was actually focused on Antonio de Noli and the history of Cabo Verde. It seemed like something was really strange because the more I concentrated on de Noli, the more I found strange similarities to what I had learned about Columbus.

I attended official ceremonies in Nova Sintra in Portugal regarding EXPO 98 and learned a great deal about the role of Portugal in the Discovery Period. Despite learning a lot, I was also greatly disappointed that the role of Cabo Verde was virtually ignored in this story, so I was determined to insure that Cabo Verde would organize an international conference to investigate this history in a more formal setting. Fortunately, after many years of doubts, a few key conferences were organized and I was able to participate in several of them and had the opportunity to speak directly with other researchers of Cape Verdean history. To my surprise, I found another researcher who had questions similar to mine regarding the similarities between Antonio de Noli and Columbus. The more I thought about his

comments the more I thought about the problems that I was facing in my research. There was a lot of work to do and I worked tirelessly for many years seeking answers to vital questions in the mysteries that were unsolved regarding both Antonio de Noli and Columbus. A major problem in discussions about Columbus is the lack of documented confirmation of his stories. Basically, writers have been passing down rumors for centuries, so it is extremely difficult to determine what's true and what's not true. In order to move forward, I had to establish some kind of logical methodology and try to interact with official documents as much as possible. So basically, in the end, I decided to play the "What if" game and took the rumors of Columbus and applied them to the known facts of Antonio de Noli in order to create a new profile of Antonio⁴⁹.

There were many mysteries that involved both men, e. g. neither navigator has an official birth record that is known to researchers or even an official place of birth. In this supplement, I have tried to provide additional information that now appears to be highly relevant in solving some of these mysteries. For example, there appears to be a close association between the confusion about the location of the residence of Columbus when he allegedly received the secret information from the "anonymous pilot." Before May 2019, I wasn't aware of the statue that was built in Huelva that

⁴⁹ The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese Born Columbus. Op. Cit. Ch. 12.

referred to him (Alonso Sanchez) as the pre-discoverer of the New World.

I have also learned that the EU provided financial assistance to produce a recent video in 2017 about this story.⁵⁰ In the meantime, I have just learned that the “Area de Cultura de la Diputacion” of Huelva sponsored a new book, “Alonso Sanchez de Huelva Pre Descubridor de America” in October 2018 based on 15 years of research by Professor Gustavo Castillo Rey. These new developments demonstrate a clear resurgence in the interest of this legendary mystery.

The new revelations by the author Juan Francisco Maura, who published extremely important information about Columbus in Portugal (See Reference 19 and also Annex 9 (1/2)) and released in March 2019, will raise new questions about this very important subject.

⁵⁰ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47839x3DIUs> Web.23 Oct.2019.

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VIDEOS

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mM0XfXdro4w>

Alonso Sanchez por Alejandro Bernal

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=47839x3DIUs>

El Prenauta por Elias Perez

ANNXES

1. Royal Letter-Antonio de Noli official discoverer of Cabo Verde.
2. Royal Letter Antonio de Noli designated as founder of first settlement in Cabo Verde.
3. The famous Columbus signature.
4. Portraits of Antonio de Noli and Columbus.
5. Confusion with name of Cabo Verde.
6. Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.
7. The Anonymous Pilot in Cabo Verde (?).
8. Proof that Antonio de Noli learned the art of Cartography in Italy.
9. Documents-Real Academia de la Historia-Madrid.
10. De Orbe Novo-Important translation /comments by F.A. MacNutt.
11. Marginal notes of Tudela (?).
12. La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense.
13. Some similarities that Noli and Columbus have in common.

14. How Columbus' name was altered in 1571.
15. Columbus in Lisbon in 1470 (?).
16. Claudia Cantani wedding photo - João da Noli (c.2004) - Brava - Cabo Verde.
17. Original Letter from the Mayor of Noli, Italy.

Royal Letter-Antonio de Noli official discoverer of Cabo Verde.

LIX. 3 Dec 1460

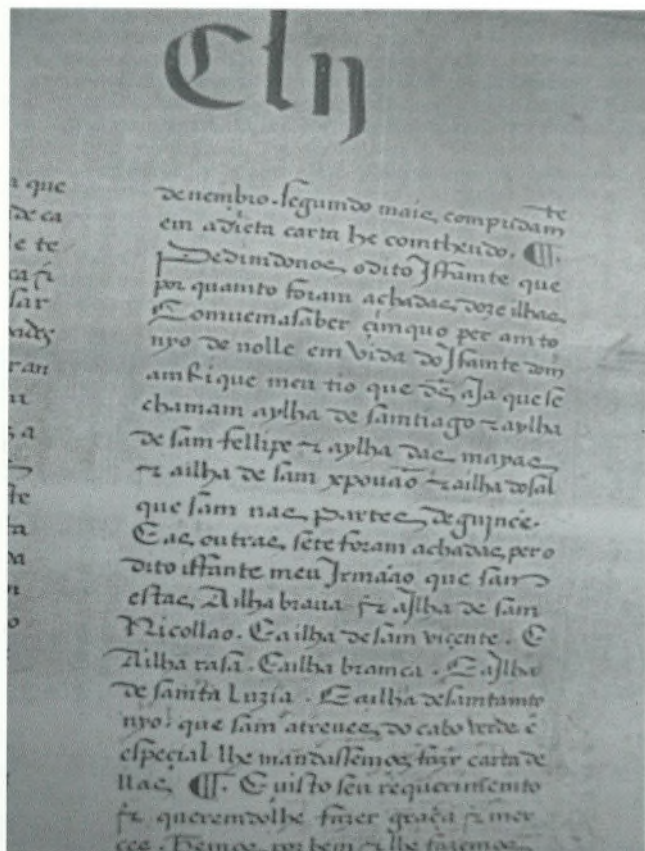
Anno de nosso senhor ihu xpo de mill e m
e sesenta. Jfiabell de souza molher de
p tauarez filha de gonzallo hoiz de souza
legitimacam.

Dom affonso re. suplicamos
esta nossa carta de legitima
cam e abillhacacm e dessem
pucam virem fuzemoe sube que nos qe
do fazez graca e mereoe a yfiabell de souza
molher de p tauarez fidalgo e auallero e
nosso alcaide moor do castello da nossa vil
la de portullogre filha de gonzallo hoiz e
legitimacam moor

Rif: ANTT, Mistérios, 1, 3 fl. 58v-59 (Pubblicato in "Alguns documentos do ANTT", p. 217).

ANNEX 1 (2/3)

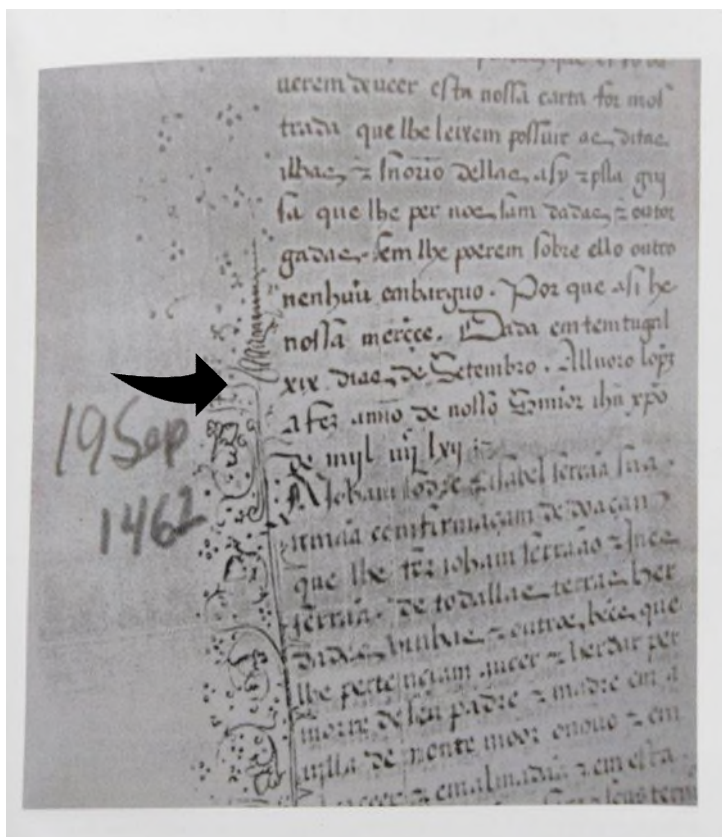
Royal Letter-Antonio de Noli official discoverer of Cabo Verde.



Page 128 Antonio de Nolle is named as the discoverer during the life of Prince Henry the Navigator, who died 13 Nov 1460.

ANNEX 1 (3/3)

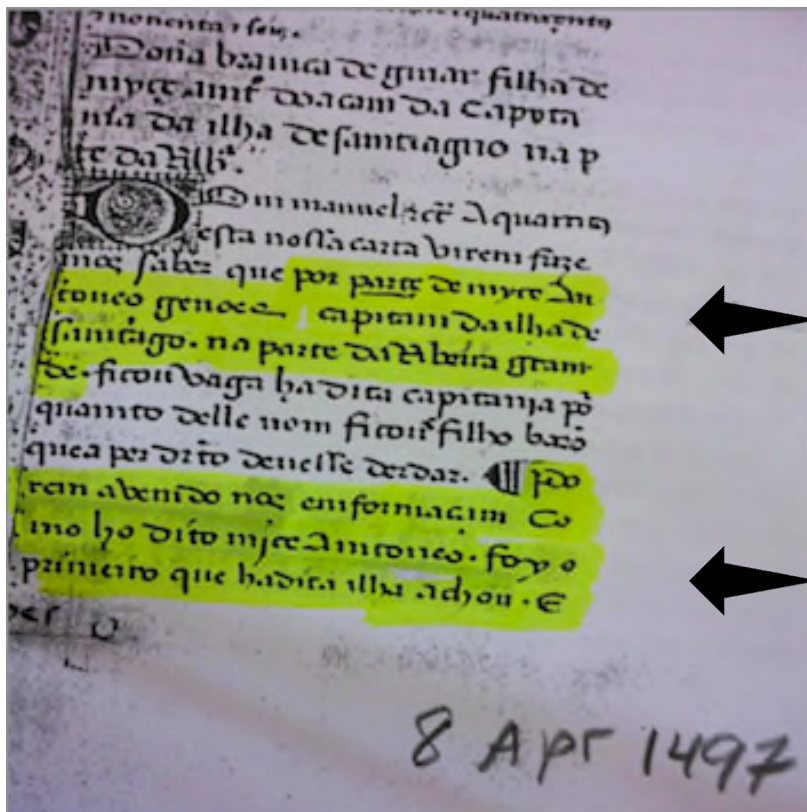
Royal Letter-Antonio de Noli official discoverer of Cabo Verde.



Page 129 This document is a continuation of the letter on page 128 and shows the date that it was written as 19 Sep 1462.

ANNEX 2 (1/2)

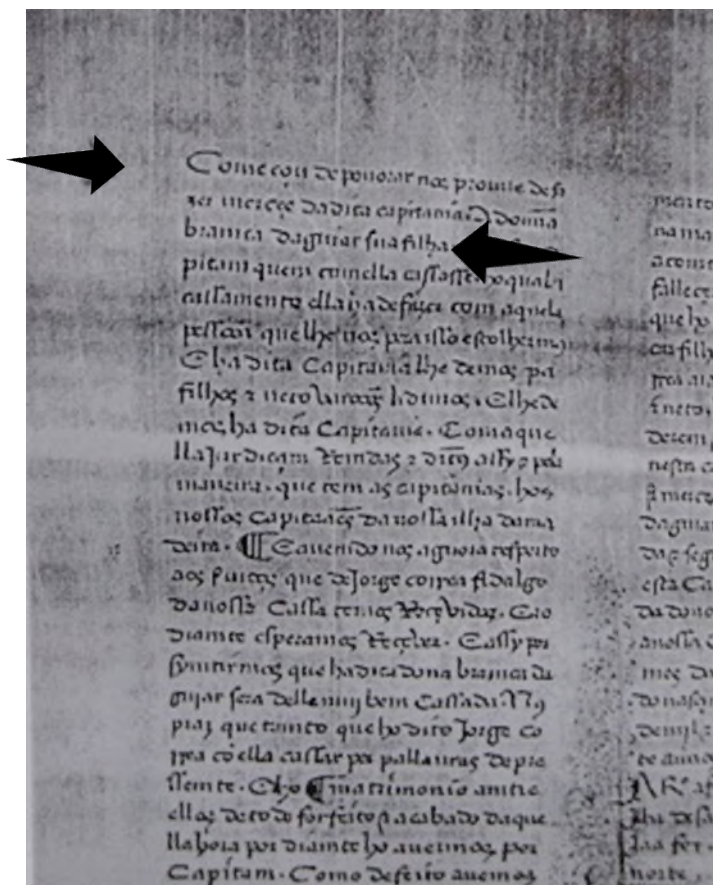
Royal Letter Antonio de Noli designated as founder of first settlement in Cabo Verde.



Page 130 This letter confirms that Antonio de Noli was the first to discover Cabo Verde (**Mjce Antoneo foy o primeiro que há dita isla achou.**) (Mr. Antonio was the first to discover this island.)

ANNEX 2 (2/2)

Royal Letter Antonio de Noli designated as founder of first settlement in Cabo Verde.



P. 131 Antonio de Noli is named as the founder of the first settlement in Cabo Verde and his daughter Dona Branca D'Aguiar inherits his estate.

ANNEX 3 (1/3)

The famous Columbus signature.

^{.s.}
^{.s.} A ^{.s.}
X M Y
XPO FERENS //

^{.s.}
^{.s.} A ^{.s.}
X M Y
XPO FERENS

^{.s.}
^{.s.} A ^{.s.}
X M Y
Alonso //

Alonso ante mayor del mar oceano y bto de
gobernador general de las yslas y por va firme
de aqui en dias de la yslas de la na myo s y en
capta en el dte mar y de la yslas //

^{.s.}
^{.s.} A ^{.s.}
X M Y
XPO FERENS //

ANNEX 3 (2/3)

The famous Columbus signature.

According to the renowned Portuguese author, Augusto Mascarenhas Barreto, in his book, “O Português Cristóvão Colombo –Agente Secreto do Rei Dom João II” Amadora. 1988, on page 105, he writes the following: ‘Ricardo Bertran y Rospide observes: “(...) Após meticolosa análise, o mesmo autor Bertran y Rospide afirma:⁵¹” “Todos os Colombos genoveses do século XV nada têm que ver com Cristóbal Colón”.

Nós acrescentaremos: todos os “Colombos” espanhóis, corsos, franceses e italianos, nada têm que ver com o Almirante das Índias; e muitos houve nessa mesma época.

Ricardo Bertran y Rospide observes: "(...) After meticulous analysis, the same author Bertran y Rospide affirms:" * All the Genoese Colombos of the XV century have nothing to do with Christopher Columbus. "

We will add: all the Spanish "Colombos", Corsican, French and Italian, have nothing to do with the Admiral of the Indies; and many were there at the same time.'

Note: Translation was made with Google Translator. Also, Ricardo Bertran (1852-1928) was a prominent writer and historian in Spain.

⁵¹ Ricardo Bertran y Rospide. “Cristóbal Colón, Genovés” Madrid, 1925.

ANNEX 3 (3/ 3)

The famous Columbus Signature.

Mascarenhas Barreto tells an incredible story about how an author by the name of Luis Ulloa apparently used wrong data from a well-known author to justify the invention of the name Juan Baustista Colon. He bases his analysis on the interpretation of Columbus's famous signature; Xpo Ferens which has traditionally been translated to mean, "the bearer of Christ." Using this scenario, he suggests that Ulloa translates this meaning to be St. John the Baptist, who represents the symbolic "bearer of Christ" and therefore interprets the name in Catalan, written as "Juan Bautista", which is supposedly related to the famous pirate. French / Catalan with the surname Coullon and then anoint him as "Cristobal Colon". Barreto uses a metaphor to explain how a relative of the pirate Coullon became known as Cristobal Colon. Based on Barreto's explanation, we have an idea how the name of the famous navigator was invented. (Barreto. Op. Cit.p.146.).

Now we have another similar problem with Antonio de Noli. The Duchess of Medina Sidonia states that he is the heir of "Juan Bautista Noli" (Africa vs. America Op. Cit. P.78 / 9). Who was Juan Bautista Noli? How did he suddenly become associated with Antonio de Noli? Is there a connection between the two? Or was Juan Bautista Noli invented as Juan Bautista Colon? Is there a connection between these two stories or is it just another strange coincidence like so many others that revolve around the two navigators? But if the Duchess had a legitimate source where she

found the name of Juan Bautista Noli and let's say that Ulloa had also found that source in his research, then you could say that perhaps he really meant that Juan Bautista Colon was the heir to Juan Bautista Noli. Now the suggestion of how the name of Cristobal Colon was invented would make a lot more sense. After all, Columbus's biography is much more like that of Antonio de Noli than that of a French / Catalan pirate by the name of Coullon. So if we were to replace the name Coullon with Juan Bautista Noli and if Ulloa had used the same source that gave us the name Juan Bautista Noli, who was later succeeded by Antonio de Noli, then it would be logical to say that Cristobal Colon became Antonio de Noli's heir and everything would start to make more sense in this mystery.

There is yet another component to this story that adds to the confusion and intrigue. On page 146 of Barreto's book *Op. Cit.*, He says this; "The chronicler João de Barros mentions the passage through Cabo Verde of a Frenchman, João Baptista, to whom the captaincy of the Island of Maio would have been granted when Santiago's was improperly handed over to Nola (de Noli); but it seems to be a mistake of the writer, orally misinformed, since no document confirms such a grant, totally ignored by the first grantees of that island, who went to occupy it when still deserted, and all the chroniclers of that time. "

It was precisely in this mistake by João de Barros, in his "Decadas de Asia" (written about 100 years later), that Mr. Luis Ulloa (*Op. Cit.*) used as a basis to invent Coullon a Frenchman and also a

Catalan privateer, called Juan Bautista, who was anointed as Cristobal Colon.

Based on Barreto's comments in the last paragraphs, it seems to me that this may explain the roots of the confusion. Perhaps this was the source the duchess used in her reference to Juan Bautista Noli. Basically, some writers seem to suggest that Columbus is related to French Admiral Guillaume Casenove-Coullon and his real name must be Jean Coullon, a Catalan rebel. His Catalan name would be Juan Bautista Colom and in order to disguise his identity he chose the name Xpo Ferens Colon (which is supposed to mean "bearer of Christ") because it is a symbol of Juan Bautista (St. John the Baptist). Barreta attributes this historical problem to the writings of Luis Ulloa.

ANNEX 4

Portraits of Antonio de Noli and Columbus.

António de Noli, o descobridor oficial e primeiro povoador das ilhas de Cabo Verde

By Prof. Lourenço Gomes PHD

Cape Verde University
The Antonio de Noli Academic Society

Da Noli a Capo Verde

Giornata internazionale di studi su Antonio de Noli, scopritore di Capo Verde, nel 550° anniversario.

Jornada internacional de estudos sobre António de Noli, descobridor de Cabo Verde, por ocasião do 550º aniversário.

International study day on Antonio de Noli, the discoverer of Cape Verde, on the 550th anniversary.

18 Settembre 2010
Fondazione culturale "S. Antonio Noli"

António de Noli, the official discoverer and first settler of Cape Verde Islands

Antonio de Noli



Columbus

ANNEX 5 (1/2)

Confusion with name of Cabo Verde.



“1477 (1476) Armada de Guinea: Porto Santo (Cabo Verde), Sierra Leona, Azúcares

*Las Islas de Cabo Verde*⁵²

El Cabo Verde empezaba a oriente de América del Sur, terminando en la Mar Pequena. Y las Islas de Cabo Verde comprendían Paria, en el límite de la Tierra Firme portuguesa,

52

siendo la última la Isla de Santa Lucía. Cadamosto se atribuyó el descubrimiento en 1456. **Y después el genovés Antonio Noli, que residía en Porto Santo. En 1476, con el nombre de Islas de Antonio** o "Primera", las concedió la Católica al Duque de Medina Sidonia, poniéndole la conquista por condición previa. No parece que Enrique de Guzmán moviese un dedo, por hacerse con el señorío, pero la armada formada por la Católica, para continuar la guerra de Guinea, saqueó la isla. Arrugado **Antonio Noli dio obediencia a Fernando en 1477, entregándose con la isla, sumisión que le valió conservar la capitanía.** En 1478 cambió el signo de la guerra, regresando Noli a obediencia de Portugal. Temiendo violenta respuesta por parte de los Católicos, pues llamaron a la guerra a las Canarias de señorío, formando armada para ir a Gran Canaria, los mercaderes burgaleses Covarrubias, temiendo lo que pudiera suceder al negocio y a su factor Pedro Montoya, apellidado gitano, pidieron a los reyes que le diesen seguro.”

Top: (...) Porto Santo (Cabo Verde)(...).(3rd Line translation)
Cadamosto was attributed the discovery in 1456. **And later (rediscovered by) the Genoese Antonio Noli**, who was residing in Porto Santo. In 1476, with the name-**Antonio’s Island**, the Queen (Isabella) granted these islands to the Duke of Medina Sidonia (Note-**this was after they were conquered by Spain in 1476**) (...).

ANNEX 5 (2/2)

Confusion with name of Cabo Verde.

(...)Charles de Valera, isabelino en la guerra contra Juana, saqueó la isla de Antonio Noli, acción que se sitúa en Porto Santo y Cabo Verde. Siguió al Cabo de Leona, en la costa de Africa. Habiendo recuperado el botín el duque de Medina Sidonia, el rey le ordenó liberar a Noli, que acusó del saco a la armada formada en 1476, para ir a Guinea. La inclusión de Porto Santo en la Madeira, no estorba que perteneciese a Cabo Verde. Antonio Noli estuvo en Sevilla, con otros genoveses. Reinando Alfonso V pasó a Lisboa. Concertándose con el Infante D. Enrique, participó en las expediciones a Guinea. En uno de los viajes, encontró isla feraz, con agua y despoblada. Se hizo "buena casa", prosperando población alrededor, gracias a una agricultura floreciente y a los navegantes que hacían aguaje, camino de Guinea. (Alonso de Palencia. Crónica de Enrique IV. Lib. VI. Cap. VI).

“It could be Santiago (...) Charles de Valera, Elizabethan in the war against Juana, sacked the island of Antonio Noli, an action that is located in Porto Santo and Cabo Verde. He continued to Cape Leona, on the coast of Africa. Having recovered the loot from the Duke of Medina Sidonia, the king ordered him to free Noli, who accused the army formed in 1476 of the sack, to go to Guinea. **The inclusion of Porto Santo in Madeira does not prevent it from belonging to Cabo Verde.** Antonio Noli was in Seville, with other Genoans.

Reigning Alfonso V, he passed to Lisbon. Concerting with Infante D. Enrique, he participated in expeditions to Guinea. On one of the trips, he (Antonio de Noli) found a fertile island, with water and uninhabited. He built a “nice home,” around a prospering population, thanks to a flourishing agriculture and the navigators who made rest stops (aguaje), on the way to Guinea. (Alonso de Palencia. Chronicle of Enrique IV. Lib. VI. Ch. VI).”⁵³

Note: This is a translation made with the help of the Google translator, of excerpts from the pages 78 and 79 from the book “Africa versus America (Op. Cit.)

⁵³ Toledo. Op. Cit.pp78/79.

ANNEX 6 (1/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.

The story about this navigator is starting to gain a lot of curiosity due to recent developments, especially since a couple of videos have brought attention to this fascinating legend that has gone under the radar in recent history (see videos p.83). What I found interesting in this story was how the producer of the video was in Huelva and saw the statue of Alonso Sanchez in the public gardens (Jardina de Muelle) expressed confusion after reading the inscription at the base of the statue which reads, “Al marino Alonso Sanchez de Huelva predescubridor del Nuevo Mundo” (**To the mariner Alonso Sanchez pre-discoverer of the New World**).

There are a few other memorials in Huelva that commemorate the legend of this navigator and most people have no knowledge of this famous legend. The video producer did some homework on this story and got the support of the local culture representative in Huelva and finally the video was made. Perhaps the most fascinating aspect of this story seems to be the desire to promote this story so the world will be aware it. In fact the culture representative sponsored a book that was published by a now deceased professor who spent about 15 years to research the story. The book was just published in October 2018 (“*Alonso Sánchez de Huelva*” by Gustavo Castillo Rey).

ANNEX 6 (2/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.

There are a lot of famous writers who have given serious credibility to this story but because of some key differences of opinion and writing in different centuries it's virtually impossible to learn the full story. However, despite this problem there are certain key elements of the story that can be documented; especially now at this time in history as more and more researchers are looking into key details of this mystery and the possibilities are endless.

In a recent article in a Spanish online newspaper, “Huelva Informacion”, in 2017,⁵⁴ mention is made of the name of the caravel that was piloted by Alonso Sanchez as the *Atlante* and the name of the island that he found was given the name *Quisqueya* (today, the Dominican Republic and Haiti) as described by the author Manuel Lopez Flores who authored a novel (in 1962-“The Anonymous Pilot o Alonso Sanchez de Huelva”)

The paper also reminds the reader that it was here (in Huelva) where Columbus came in search of ships and mariners for his

⁵⁴ https://www.huelvainformacion.es/huelva/Alonso-Sanchez-marino-olvidado_0_1194180828.html Web.21-04-2020.

ANNEX 6 (3/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.

adventure. The article makes it very clear that Columbus came to Huelva seeking more information to complete what he would have received from Alonso Sanchez. “Por ello, a nadie se le escapa que el almirante buscara más información para completar las que le habría llegado de Alonso Sánchez.”(Therefore, it is not lost on anyone that the admiral sought more information to complete what he would have received from Alonso Sanchez.)

When looking at the origins of this story, it seems like one major problem is trying to determine, “Where?” the incident occurred and another problem is, “When?” So, if we scrutinize the details of some of the key writers who had a strong influence on this legend, there should be a good chance that significant progress can be made. For example, someone wrote a note on an edition of a book attributed to Queen Isabella’s chaplain who was a contemporary of Columbus and knew him personally, tells us that **he lived many years on the island of Madeira before 1475** and Garcilazo said that the pilot and his crew went to stop at the home of the famous Genoese **because they knew that he was a famous navigator and map maker**. Ironically, **Antonio de Noli was instructed in the art of cartography in Genoa, while there isn’t any documented evidence of Columbus’ training in this**

ANNEX 6 (4/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.

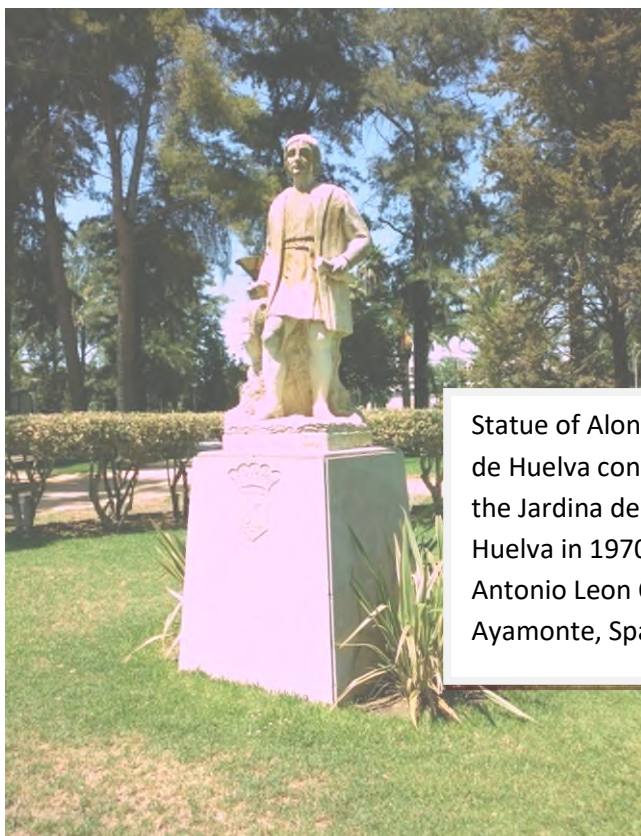
specialty that requires many years of knowledge (See Annex 8).

Garcilaso's book (Op. Cit.) Apparently was modernized in 2009 and quotes on page 24, reference 10, the following: “However, in 1762, José Ceballos, Commander of the convent of the Mercedarios Descalzos of Seville, in a critical review to a work on the history of Huelva, confirms the story considering the source of the Inca Garcilaso as original and irrefutable.”

To an astute historian, these statements serve as major clues to solve the problems of when and where this story could have taken place. Both writers were distinguished historians and would have had no reason to invent such stories. I’m sure that there are many people who are interested in doing research on such a story but simply can’t afford the effort involved. This story is in an embryonic stage of development and there is certainly a lot more to be told as more and more information becomes available. Hopefully this book will become a major contribution in that struggle.

ANNEX 6 (5/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.



Statue of Alonso Sanchez de Huelva constructed in the Jardina de Muelle in Huelva in 1970 by Antonio Leon Ortega of Ayamonte, Spain.

Statue of Alonso Sanchez de Huelva

Photo by M. G. Balla 2019

ANNEX 6 (6/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.



Al marino Alonso
Sanchez de Huelva
predescubridor del
Nuevo Mundo

Photo by M. G. Balla 2019

ANNEX 6 (7/7)

Why the story about the anonymous pilot must be taken seriously.



Photos by M. G. Balla 2020

On the corner of the Plaza de la Soledad where according to tradition, Alonso Sanchez de Huelva was born and 2. The Plaque on the Plaza de la Soledad (with the photo of the house that according to an article in the newspaper online "Huelva Informacion" 3-10-2010, was destroyed in the 1990s) indicating the place occupied by the house of Alonso Sanchez. Reference: "Alonso Sanchez de Huelva" by Gustavo Castillo Rey. 2018.Pages 233/4.

En este esquina de la plaza estuvo situada la típica taberna "La Jangarilla", donde segun la tradicion popular, vivio el navegante onubense ALONSO SANCHEZ, precursor del descubrimiento de America. Huelva, 20 de enero de 2012 Asociación de Antiguos Vecinos del Barrio de San Sebastián

ANNEX 7

The Anonymous Pilot in Cabo Verde (?).

El Piloto Anonimo⁵⁵

por **Mariano Fernández Urresti**

Oviedo recounts the death of the entire crew and adds:

"It is said that, along with this, that this pilot was such a close friend of Christopher Columbus (...) and secretly gave part of it to Colom, and begged him to make a map and settle in that land he had seen"

Who was this unknown seaman (pilot)? From which land did he come? Where does Columbus find him? According to some, he was Andalusian and Columbus stumbled upon him in Madeira; according to others, he was Biscayan **and the future Admiral finds him dying in Cabo Verde or in Porto Santo.**

There is also a video that highlights this story.⁵⁶

⁵⁵ http://www.culturandalucia.com/Colon_y_el_piloto_desconocido.htm
Web.05-08-2020.

⁵⁶ <https://huelvabuenasnoticias.com/2018/01/12/huelva-acoge-el-estreno-de-el-prenauta-el-cortometraje-que-rescata-la-figura-del-marino-alonso-sanchez/> Web. 05-08-2020.

ANNEX 8

Proof that Antonio de Noli learned the art of Cartography in Italy ANTONIO da Noli di Geo Pistarino - Dizionario Biografico degli Italiani - Volume 3 (1961).⁵⁷

ANTONIO da NOLI - was born in Genova to a family with origins in the city of Noli. The date of birth is unknown, presumably **around the third decade of the 15th century**. **He was instructed in cartography by his brother Agostino, who in 1438 appeared in Genoa as magister cartarum pro navegando**. It is not known what the difficulties were that, according to the Portuguese historian João de Barros, would have led him to leave his homeland, so as not to return. **In 1460 he arrived in Portugal** with his brother Bartolomeo and his nephew Raffaele, in command of three ships, **and placed himself at the service of Prince Henry the Navigator**. Since then **his name is linked to the discovery of the islands of Cape Verde**, which in the cartography of the fourteenth and sixteenth centuries are **often referred to as "Antonio's Islands"**.

Note: This article establishes several important observations:

1. He was Genoese
2. Born around the third decade of the 15th century
3. He learned cartography from his brother who was a qualified instructor
4. He went to Portugal in 1460
5. He served Prince Henry the Navigator
6. His name is linked to Cabo Verde which was also known as Antonio's Island

⁵⁷ [http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/antonio-da-noli_\(Dizionario-Biografico\)/](http://www.treccani.it/enciclopedia/antonio-da-noli_(Dizionario-Biografico)/) Web. 05-08-2020.

ANNEX 9 (1/2)

Documents-Real Academia de la Historia-Madrid.

Colon had knowledge of the destiny of those who died after coming from there (newly discovered lands) and after some time, **he decided to go to the king of Portugal**, who at this time was **Don Alonso**, to negotiate with him for his support to search for these lands (...).

And this would be in the year **1475** or shortly after

Ya dicha. Al qual dicho Colon sabida la fortuna y muerte de los que avian partido de allí, Dende a algun tiempo acordo de yrse para el rrey de Portugal que hera en aquella sazón el rrey Don Alonso para negociar con el, alguna manera para que le ayud(a)se para yr a buscar aquellas tierras y segund se crehee y afirmamole descubrio del todo el secreto como ello sabia y lo tenía por memoria y escrito salvo dandole de lexos alguna noticia y rrazones como se sabia que avia çiertas tierras ygnotas y no conecidas. Las quales hallandas serian de mucho provecho si fuesen ávidas en sojuzgadas por que avia en ellas mucho oro asi sendo algunas cavsas y rrazones, persuasivas para quel dicho rrey se ynclinase a gastar algo y lo enviase a las buscar y esto seria en el ano de mill y quarto cientos y setente y cinco anos o poco mas) el qual dicho Colon andubo trás el dicho rrey en estoalgunos anos y platicando com algunos de su corte en (e)llo y algunos avia que les parecian bien) otros burlavam dello teniendolo por ayre y como esto fue en tiempo que el rreyno de Portugal y Castilla estavan rebueltos sobre la entrada que el dicho rrey Don Alonso entro aca en Castilla en favor dela excelente que se dizia hija del rrey Don Enrrique el quarto entonces el dicho Xróval Colon no fue ansi oydo ni ovo lugare xxx ayudado a su negocio como la calidad del lo xxxxx (requeria)y enfadado y como aborrido dela dilacion del mucho tiempo que en aquello avia gastado acordo de se venir pa (para) el rrey Don Fernando

y la rreyna Dona Ysavel en castilla con la mesma enpresa y negociacion de la manera que con el dicho rrey de Portugal negociava. Donde tambien.le ponian algunos ynconvinentes y dilaciones an sy por no parecer algunas cavsas que provasen algo/aquello ser contra si como el Colon dizia porque no masnifestava de todo el secreto segun de el lo sabia y tenía por escripto como por que los rreyes estavan a la sazón en Cartagne -asidades y no en tienpo de gastar di negoç al ayre sinas todavia el dicho Xróval Colon con su buena perseverança y proposta.


Note: This is a transcript of Annex 9 (2/2) on the next page and was done by M. G. Balla. There is more information about this document in the magazine; CUADERNOS HISPANOAMERICANOS 12 N° 824 Febrero 2019 por Juan Francisco Maura (Redescriendo America pp. 14/15) that I found on the Web in December 2019.⁵⁸

⁵⁸ https://issuu.com/publicacionesaacid/docs/ch824_febrero.

Web. Dec. 2019.

ANNEX 9 (2/2)

Documents-Real Academia de la Historia-Madrid.


 Ya sea. Al qual dho colon sabida la fortuna y muerte de los
 q avian partido de allí. Dende a algunt po a corda de y se
 para al. rrey de portugal q hera ya quella sazón el rrey
 don alonso para negociar con el. en una manera para q
 le avindase para yr a buscar a aquellas tierras y se mandó
 se acordó y se firmó nole de abril del todo el secreto como el
 lo sabía y lo tenía por memoria esatto. Salvo dandole de
 lecos al guna notia y razones como se sabía q avia
 ciertas tierras y notias y no conoçidas las quales halla
 das serian de mucho provecho si fuesen a vides. Mo fuz
 gadas por q avia en ellas mucho oro y plata y algunas
 cosas y razones p su afi bues para quel dho rrey se yna
 nase a gastar algo y lo dho rrey a las bues y se seria
 en el año de mill e quatrocientos y setenta y cinco años
 o poco mas el qual dho colon andubo tras el dho rrey en esta
 de quinos años y plati canel con al gnos de su corte en ello
 y se quinos avia q lee parecia bien o troe bnt la van de los
 de portugal y de Castilla. qdavan yebuelcos sobre la entra
 da q el dho rrey don alonso entro aca. en la villa de fitor.
 de la. Excelente q se dya hsta del rrey don enri q el quate
 rto. El dho xponal colon no fue ansi. y el m obo lugar se
 yubada a su negocio como la salida del lo res qdika
 y como a bori de la dilu noni del rrey y a
 tlenzo q en a quito avia gustad a corda. Q se venia a
 al rrey do fernando y la reyna dona y sabel en Castilla
 con la mesma intepresa y negocio a hon. Q ca maneta bue
 con el dho rrey de portugal negociaba q donde tambien le
 p oman et quinos y con vinientes y dila aone q an sy
 por no pareca al unas causas q probasen algo a qdillo
 ser andi como el colon qd q por q no manifestava de
 todo el secreto segund el lo sabia. Q tenia por carita
 como por q los rreyes qdavan ala sazón dho a rreina
 res dades y no en tiempo de gastar dneros al en rreinas da
 via el dho xponal colon con su buena pveberanza y pofel

ANNEX 10 (1/3)

De Orbe Novo-Important translation /comments by F.A. MacNutt.

De Orbe Novo

The Eight Decades of Peter Martyr D'Anghera

Translated from the Latin with Notes and Introduction

By

Francis Augustus MacNutt

**Author of " Bartholomew de Las Casas, His Life, His
Apostolate, and His Writings,**

*** Fernando Cortes and the Conquest of Mexico." Editor
and translator of**

**** The Letters of Cortes to Charles V."**

In Two Volumes

Volume One

**G. P. Putnam's Sons New York and London db
knickerbocker Press**

1912

ANNEX 10 (2/3)

De Orbe Novo-Important translation /comments by F.A. MacNutt.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

EDITIONS OF PETER MARTYR'S WORKS

P. Martyris Angli [sic] mediolanensis opera. Legatio Babylonica, Oceani Decas, Poemata, Epigrammata. Cum privilegio. Impressum Hispali cum summa diligentia per Jacobum Corumberger Alemanum, anno millesimo quingentesimo XI, mense vero Aprili, in fol.

This Gothic edition contains only the First Decade.

Two Italian books compiled from the writings of Peter Martyr antedate the above edition of 1511. Angelo Trevisan, secretary to the Venetian ambassador in Spain, forwarded to Domenico Malipiero certain material which he admitted having obtained from a personal friend of Columbus, who went as envoy to the Sultan of Egypt. The reference to Peter Martyr is sufficiently clear. The work of Trevisan appeared in 1504 under the title, *Libretto di tutta la navigazione del re di Spagna de le isole et terreni novamente trovati*. Published by Albertino Vercellese da Lisbona. Three years later, in 1507, a compilation containing parts of this same work was printed at Vicenza by Fracanzio, at Milan by Arcangelo Madrignano in 1508, and at Basle and Paris by

Simon Gryneo. The volume was entitled Paesi novamente ritrovati et Novo Mondo, etc. Peter Martyr attributed the piracy to Aloisio da Cadamosto, whom he consequently scathingly denounces in the seventh book of the Second Decade.

Pp49/50 De orbe novo, the eight Decades of Peter Martyr d' Anghera... (Translated by F. A. Mac Nutt) Bibliography-

EDITIONS OF PETER MARTYR'S WORKS/Vol.1⁵⁹

⁵⁹ <https://archive.org/details/deorbenovoeightd01angh> Web. 05-08-2020.

ANNEX 10 (3/3)

De Orbe Novo-Important translation /comments by F.A. MacNutt.

Second Decade-BOOK VII

Pedro Arias found two thousand young soldiers in excess of his number awaiting him at Seville; he likewise found a goodly number of avaricious old men, the majority of whom asked merely to be allowed to follow him at their own cost, without receiving the royal pay. Rather than overcrowd his ships and to spare his supplies, he refused to take any of the latter. Care was taken that no foreigner should mingle with the Spaniards, without the King's permission, and for this reason I am extremely astonished that a certain Venetian, Aloisió Cadamosto, who has written a history of the Portuguese, should write when mentioning the actions of the Spaniards, "We have done; we have seen; we have been"; when, as a matter of fact, he has neither done nor seen any more than any other Venetian. Cadamosto borrowed and plagiarised whatever he wrote, from the first three books of my first three Decades, that is to say, those which I addressed to the Cardinals Ascanio and Arcimboldo, who were living at the time when the events I described were happening. He evidently thought that my works would never be given to the public, **and it may be that he came across them in the possession of some Venetian ambassador;** for the most illustrious Senate of that Republic sent eminent men to the Court of the Catholic Kings, **to some**

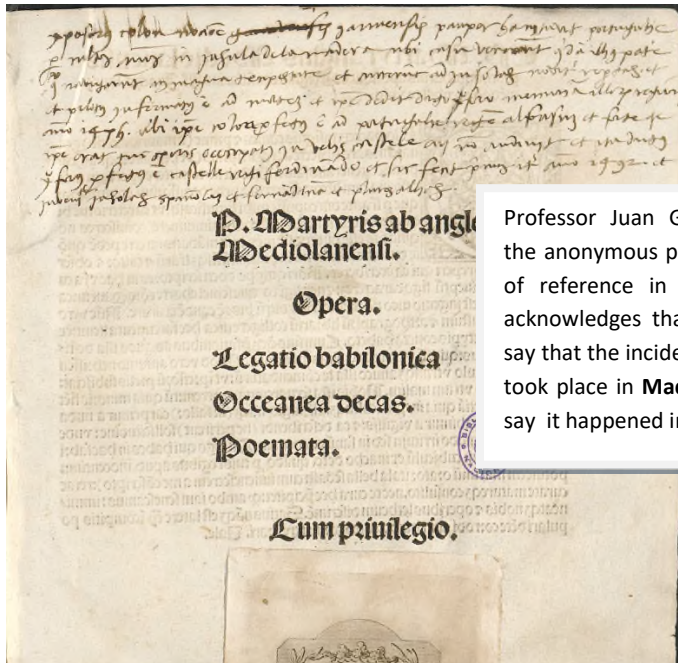
of whom I willingly showed my writings. I readily consented that copies should be taken. Be that as it may, this excellent Aloisió Cadamosto has sought to claim for himself what was the work of another. He has related the great deeds of the Portuguese, but whether he witnessed them, as he pretends, or has merely profited by the labour of another, I am unable to state. *Vivat et ipse marte suo.*

P249 second decade Book VII/Vol. 1

<https://archive.org> > details » deorbenovoeightd0languh Op.
Cit.

ANNEX 11

The Note believed to be written by the scribe Tudela (?).



Professor Juan Gil writes about the anonymous pilot on page 126 of reference in box below. He acknowledges that some sources say that the incident with the pilot took place in **Madeira** and others say it happened in **Cabo Verde**.

“Cristóbal Colón, genovés de nacimiento, hombre pobre, **habitó en Portugal durante muchos años en la isla de la Madera**, a la que llegaron por azar unos de aquel país que habían navegado con una gran tempestad y habían arribado a las islas ultimamente descubiertas (**Cabo Verde?**); y cuando el piloto enfermó de muerte, él en persona dio al susodicho Cristóbal noticia de aquellas regiones **en el año 1475**. El dicho Colón marchó a presencia del rey de Portugal Alfonso que, como estaba por aquel entonces enzarzado en las guerras con Castilla, no lo escuchó; entonces Cristóbal acudió ante Fernando, rey de Castilla, y así hizo el primer viaje en el año 1492 y descubrió las islas Española, Fernandina y otras muchas.” Referència, **Cartas particulares a Colón y relaciones coetáneas**, por Gil, Juan; Consuelo Varela .1984. p.128. Alianza Universidad. Translation from Latin by professor Juan Gil. **This document (R/3436) is now archived in the National Library of Madrid (www.bne.es).**

ANNEX 12 (1/4)

La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense.⁶⁰

La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense is an association created to update the memory of the Discovery of America and its important relationship with some cities in the province of Huelva (Spain). It defines itself as a purely cultural and apolitical society. The current president is Mr. José María Segovia and **the honorary president is a direct descendant of Cristóbal Colón and Duke of Veragua Cristóbal Colón de Carvajal.**

I think this society could serve as a good link to develop the story of the pilot Alonso Sanchez who is directly connected with the history of Cabo Verde, VR STº António e Castro Marim in the Algarve in Portugal. These last two cities in Portugal were described as the area where the authors suggest that Columbus crossed the border from Portugal to Spain after his residence in Portugal. For example, Carlos Rivera, wrote in his book, Martin Alonso Pinzon “Ya tenemos, pues, al marino ligur camino de nuestro país. O en nuestro país. ¿En Córdoba? ¿En la Rabida?

⁶⁰ "Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense." *Wikipedia, La enciclopedia libre*. 2 jul 2019, 22:04 UTC. 21 ene 2020, 11:26
<https://es.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Real_Sociedad_Colombina_Onubense&oldid=117119777> Web. 18-04-2020.

Yo me inclino a pensar que Colón va antes a Cordoba que a la Rabida. En uno o en outro lugar, sim embargo, ninguno de esos cientos de libros que tratam de su vida se detiene a senalar por que punto cruzó la frontera. Yo sospecho que escogeria el camino mas corto: Castro Marim, Ayamonte. Es la ruta por la que en todos los tiempos se há verificado, por el Sur, el intercambio de conspiradores entre España y Portugal.”

(“We already have, then, the Ligurian mariner coming to our country. Or into our country. In Cordoba? In La Rabida? I am inclined to think that Columbus goes first to Cordoba then to La Rabida. In one place or another, however, none of those hundreds of books that deal with his life stops to point out at which point he crossed the border. I suspect he chose the shortest path: Castro Marim, Ayamonte. It is the route through which the exchange of conspirators between Spain and Portugal has been verified throughout the South”).

And Mascarenhas Barreto mentions the same route in his book, *The Portuguese Cristóvão Colombo Secret Agent of King Dom João II*, writes about Miguel Moliarte, the brother-in-law of Colombo's wife: “The profession of Moliarte-merchant-allowed him to travel the docks of Palos without arousing suspicion and even crossing the Algarve lane, from Ayamonte to Santo António de (Arenilha) (the name was changed in 1774 to Vila Real de Santo António), or further north, where the Guadiana narrows in front of the Templar castle of Castro Marim (...). ”^[61] ^[62]. So, with the new revelations

⁶¹ Rivera, Carlos. “Martin Alonso Pinzon” Ayamonte. 1945. Pp54/5.

⁶² Barreto, Mascarenhas. “O Português Cristóvão Colombo Agente Secreto do Rei Dom João II. Amadra. 1988.” Pp516/7.

ANNEX 12 (2/4)

La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense.

In this book it should be a good opportunity to unite Cape Verdean interests with those of the Spanish society so that we can achieve our goals together. In this case, this society wants to strengthen the credibility of Alonso Sanchez's story while Cabo Verde wants to strengthen the Columbus story in Cabo Verde. In addition, we can awaken the interests of the Portuguese in the cities of VR Stº António and Castro Marim so that they can advance tourist interests to this historic area in collaboration with other tourist agencies in Spain.

We also have an extraordinary benefit that deserves a great deal of attention; involving the descendants of Columbus. We should always be aware that in Cabo Verde there are many people who may be descendants of Columbus or António de Noli (Reference; "The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese born Columbus," Annex 45. Edition 2017. Perhaps the descendants of Columbus can compare their DNA with Noli descendants in Italy and or Cabo Verde to determine if there is a connection.

ANNEX 12 (3/4)

La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense.



page517 Barreto, *O Português Cristóvão Colombo Agente Secreto do Rei Dom João II.*

This map shows the possible route of Columbus according to the writers Carlos Ribero (Spanish) and Mascarenhas Barreto (Portuguese). Partial map of the Portuguese and Castile Kingdoms before 1492, showing the short distance between Stº Antonio (de Arenilha) (Today-Vila Real de Stº Antonio) and Huelva (La Rabida) e Beja.

ANNEX 12 (4/4)

La Real Sociedad Colombina Onubense.



Joey Martin-Wareham, MA
USA



Marcel Gomes Balla-VR Stº Antonio
Portugal

CABO VERDE WAY

Rua Antonio de Nola

These photos are meant to tell the story of how Cabo Verde is recognized and connected to different countries in various regions of the world. For example, Cabo Verde Way is the name of a street in the town of Wareham, MA where many Cape Verdean families emigrated from the islands of Cabo Verde (especially Brava and Fogo). In the city of VR St. Antonio (Monte Gordo) Algarve, Portugal, there is a street named after the famous navigator Antonio de Noli **and first documented Cape Verdean resident**. There are many streets named after him in Italy and Portugal and in Cabo Verde there are some villages named after one of his descendants, João da Noli, who was a famous sea merchant on the island of Brava.

ANNEX 13

HERE ARE SOME SIMILARITIES THAT NOLI AND COLUMBUS HAVE IN COMMON:⁶³

1. They are two renowned navigators, with their names engraved in the history of the world;
2. They are both of Genoese origin;
3. The two sailed in the service of Portugal first, before going to Spain (Noli as a prisoner during the War of Joanna) and Columbus in the history that is known worldwide.
4. Both sailed in Portuguese navigation voyages on the coast of Africa;
5. Both of them lived on "Portuguese islands", for some authors in Madeira (Porto Santo), for others on António's Island (Cabo Verde), **in either case approximately 15 years before 1476, on the same island (s) and at the same time?!**
6. And some facts less well known; both were born in Genoa in the mid-30s of the 15th century. It seems certain that Columbus died in 1506 at the age of 70+/- . The death of A. de Noli was never confirmed. De Noli learned the art of map making from his brother in Genoa while some writers say that Columbus learned the art of map making from his brother who was working in Lisbon as a map maker.

⁶³ There are another 50+/- similarities in the book, "The Portuguese Cape Verdean Identity of the Genoese Born Columbus" Edition 2017.

ANNEX 14

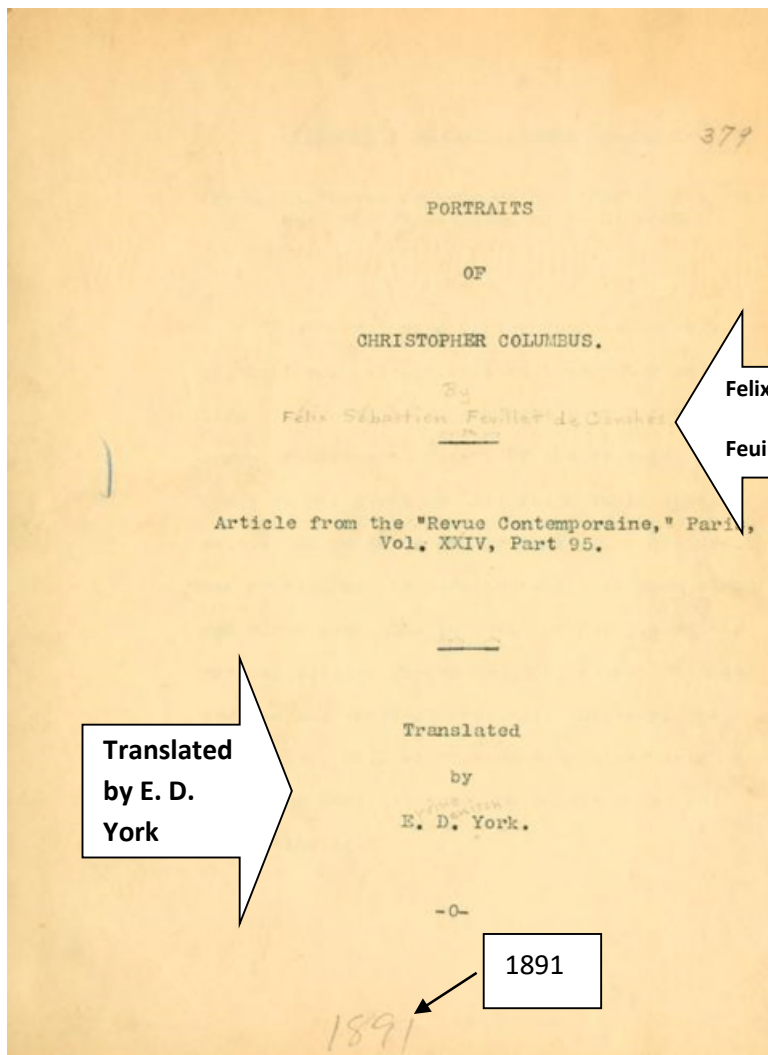
How Columbus's name was changed in 1571.



Hernando Colon died in 1539 and his book was translated and published in Italian in 1571 and suddenly his name became Fernando Colombo a name that he never used in his lifetime and the first time that the Admiral appeared under the name of Christoforo Colombo in my investigation (The translator Ulloa already had died in a prison in Venice in 1570 before the book was published in 1571).

ANNEX 15 (1/2)

Columbus in Lisbon in 1470 (?).



Felix Sébastien

Feuillet de Conches

**Translated
by E. D.
York**

1891

ANNEX 15 (2/2)

Columbus in Lisbon in 1470 (?).

2.

That which Columbus tells us about his studies is nearly all that we know about the matter. One of his letters to Ferdinand and Isabella shows us that to the theories of the period he joined an experience of twenty-three years of navigation; that he had seen all the Levant, the Occident and the North; that he had visited England and made several voyages to Lisbon and the coasts of Guinea. He also speaks himself of an excursion that he made to Chios, and of an expedition to Tunis of which he was given charge by King René of Anjou. But of all these divers voyages we possess no precise information sufficient to fix the dates, still less the circumstances. His son does indeed state that Columbus was at Lisbon in 1470, but he neglected to go into any details. Finally, there has been preserved

He was in
Lisbon in
1470

“His son does indeed state that Columbus was at Lisbon in 1470, but he neglected to go into details.” “Portraits of Christopher Columbus” Felix-Sebastien Feuillet de Conches Paris 1891 translated by E.D.YORK

ANNEX 16

Claudia Cantani wedding photo - João da Noli (c.2004) - Brava - Cabo Verde



The wedding was hosted by the Mayor of Brava, Camilo Gonçalves, also in the photo. The town is named after João da Noli, who was a wealthy merchant and sea captain and a descendant of Antonio de Noli. Many people have said that many descendants of the Noli family have lived in this town and some are believed to still be living on the island of Brava or on the island of Fogo, where there is another town named after João da Noli.

ANNEX 17

Original Letter from the Mayor of Noli, Italy



Città di Noli

Piazza Milite Ignoto 6 - 17026 Noli (SV)
pec: proteccolli@pec.comune.noli.sv.it

Il dott. Balla è da molti anni un grande amico di Noli.

Da una sua visita a questa città e ai successivi contatti nacque l'idea di un convegno internazionale dedicato alla scoperta di Capo Verde: nel 2010, 550° anniversario della scoperta, studiosi provenienti da tre continenti confrontarono le loro informazioni su Antonio da Noli, confermando in maniera definitiva la sua identità personale, spesso confusa con quella di altri navigatori, e il suo ruolo di scopritore e colonizzatore dell'arcipelago. Le relazioni presentate in quella sede furono poi raccolte in un volume dal titolo "Da Noli a Capo Verde", che fornisce un quadro composito ed estremamente interessante degli eventi da cui nacque un nuovo popolo, quello capoverdiano, e si posero le basi per la scoperta dell'America.

Rimanevano aperti diversi interrogativi sugli ultimi anni di vita del grande navigatore e sulle tante coincidenze con la figura di Cristoforo Colombo. Continuando a indagare su questi temi, il dott. Balla, ricercatore appassionato e competente, ha guardato con occhi liberi da pregiudizi la biografia del grande genovese, avanzando nuove ipotesi e mettendo in evidenza elementi finora trascurati o addirittura ignoti.

Il dott. Balla ha avuto l'opportunità di approfondire i suoi studi da una posizione privilegiata: è americano di origine capoverdiana, con forti legami nell'arcipelago, e risiede in Portogallo, dove ha la possibilità di consultare i documenti originali riguardanti le vicende dell'epoca delle scoperte. Le novità presentate dall'Autore permettono di aprire nuovi filoni di indagine estremamente interessanti.

Come Sindaco del Comune di Noli, luogo di origine della famiglia di Antonio, scopritore delle isole di Capo Verde e fondatore di Ribeira Grande, l'antica capitale, oggi gemellata con la mia città, non posso che esprimere tutta la mia gratitudine per il lavoro prezioso svolto dal dott. Balla.

L'auspicio di tutti noi è che questi ulteriori studi sviluppati negli ultimi anni possano essere presentati in una nuova occasione di incontro e confronto a Noli.

Il Sindaco della Città di Noli
Ambrogio Rebello

